Featuring America's Fighting Nemesis of Crime

10¢

The BLACK TERROR

NO. 23

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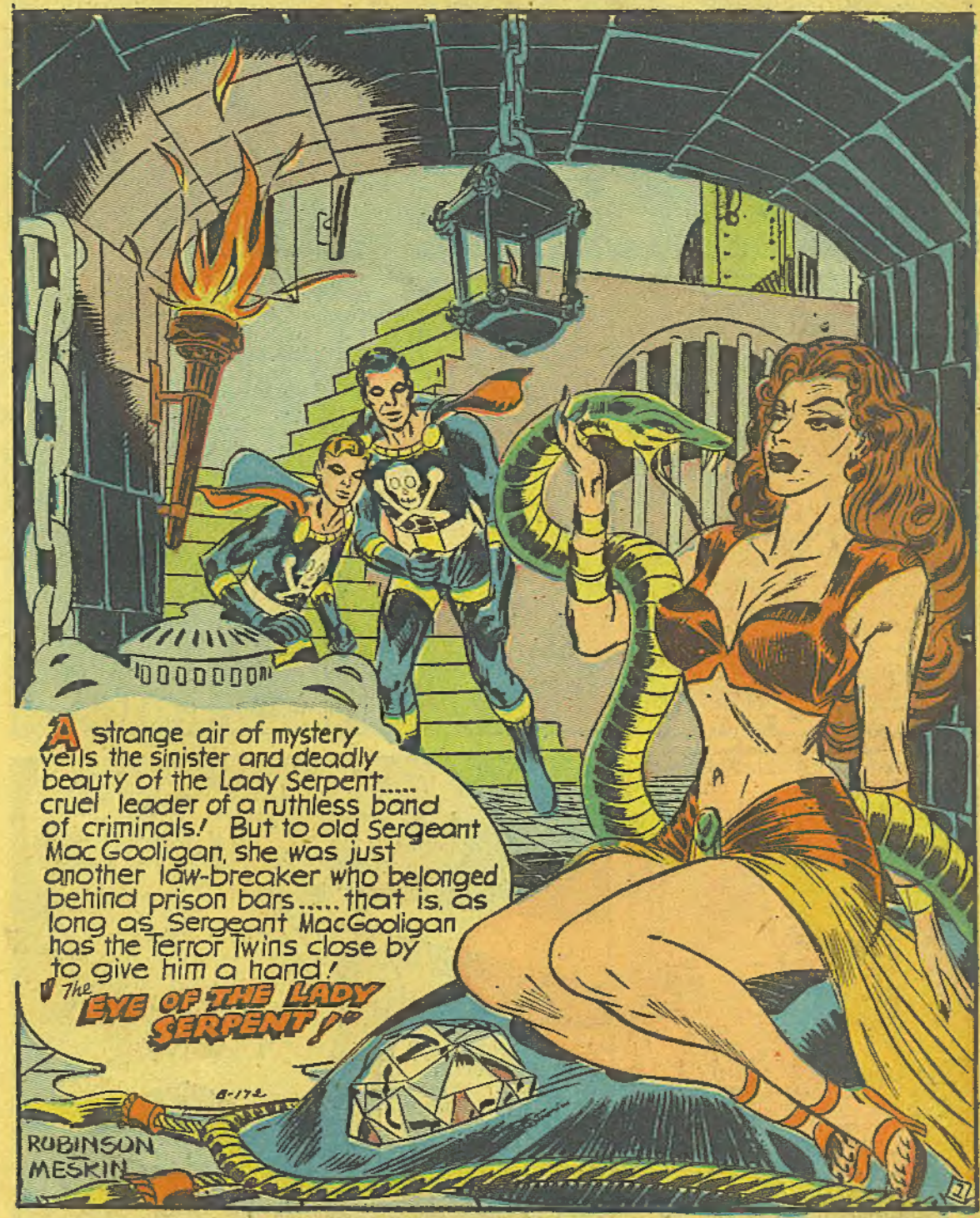
The BLACK TERROR


A strange air of mystery veils the sinister and deadly beauty of the Lady Serpent..... cruel leader of a ruthless band of criminals! But to old Sergeant MacGooligan, she was just another law-breaker who belonged behind prison bars..... that is, as long as Sergeant MacGooligan has the Terror Twins close by to give him a hand!
"The EYE OF THE LADY SERPENT!"
B-172
ROBINSON
MESKIN

IT WAS A QUIET EVENING IN THE CROWDED, TEEMING SLUM WHERE MILD-MANNERED BOB BENTON KEPT HIS DRUG STORE.....
EVENING, SGT. MAC GOOLIGAN, AND WHAT'LL YOU HAVE TONIGHT?
'TIS A FIERCE HEADACHE I HAVE, TIM, ME BOY! AND TROUBLE, TOO! MAKE ME A SWEET DRINK OF HOT CHOC'LIT, LAD!
A HEADACHE, SERGEANT MAC GOOLIGAN?
RIGHT YE ARE THE FIRST TIME, LAD! 'TIS THE LADY SERPENT THAT'S ME TROUBLE! AS EVIL A WENCH AS EVER CARRIED A GUN!
BUT I THOUGHT THE BLACK TERROR AND THE KID JUST CAPTURED HER?
AYE—BUT SHE WEREN'T IN JAIL MORE THAN TWO HOURS WHIN SHE ESCAPED!
HOW DID SHE ESCAPE, SARGE?
'TIS A STRANGE STORY, LAD! SEEMS LIKE EVERYTHING WAS KINDA QUIET IN THE CELL BLOCK...
AND THEN THAT EVIL LADY SERPENT CALLS THE MATRON, SHE DOES...
WHAT DO YOU WANT NOW?
TAKE A LOOK IN THIS CELL AND SEE FOR YOURSELF!
IF YOU'RE JUST MAKING TROUBLE FOR ME! I'LL... I'LL... I DON'T SEE ANYTHING... NOTHING... NOTHING EXCEPT A STRANGE LIGHT.....
YOU SEE NOTHING? LOOK DEEPER.... DEEPER.... THERE'S A SWEET, STRANGE SILVERY LIGHT... AND IT MAKES YOU SLEEPY... SLEEPY... SLEEPY....
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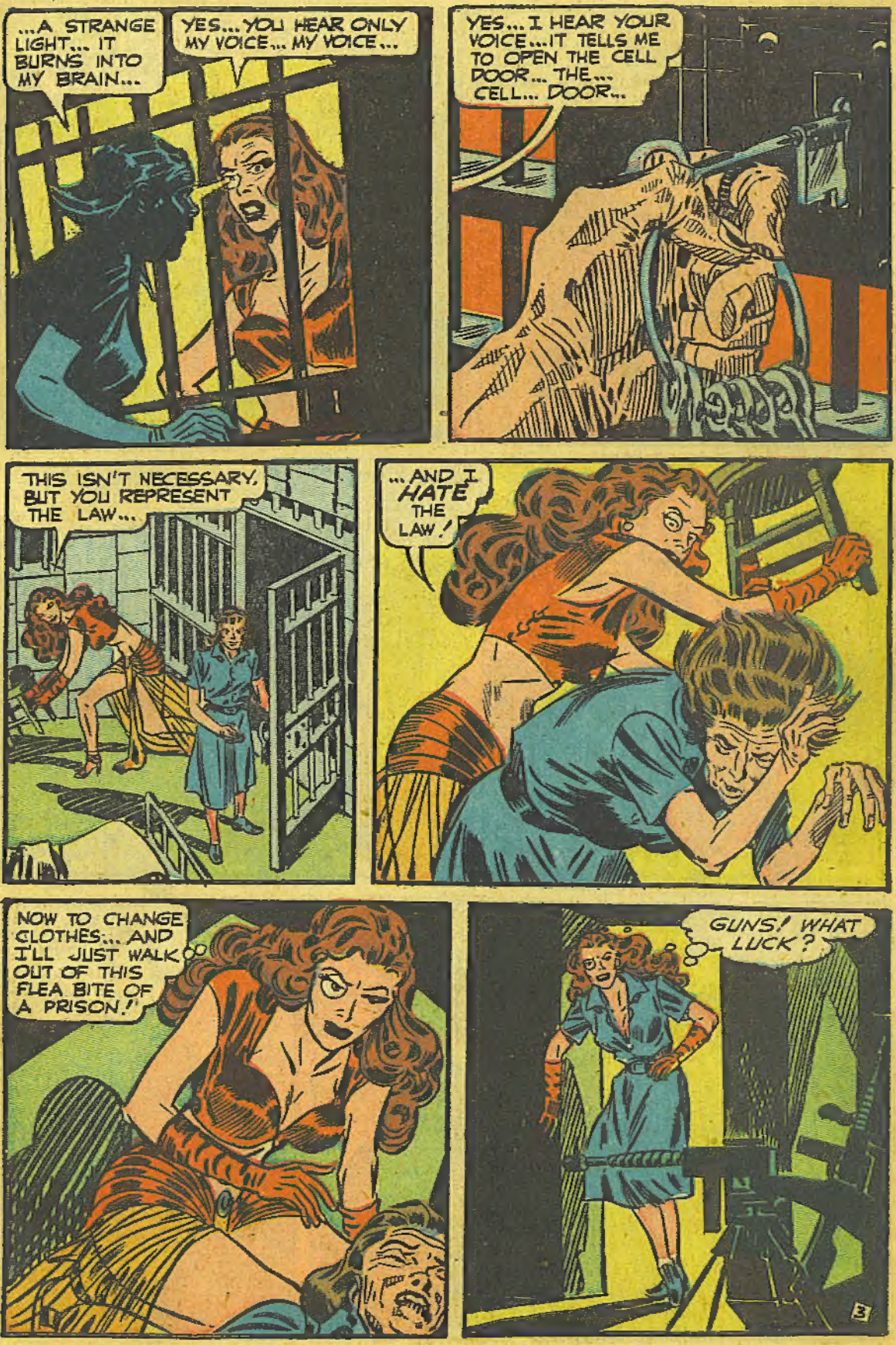
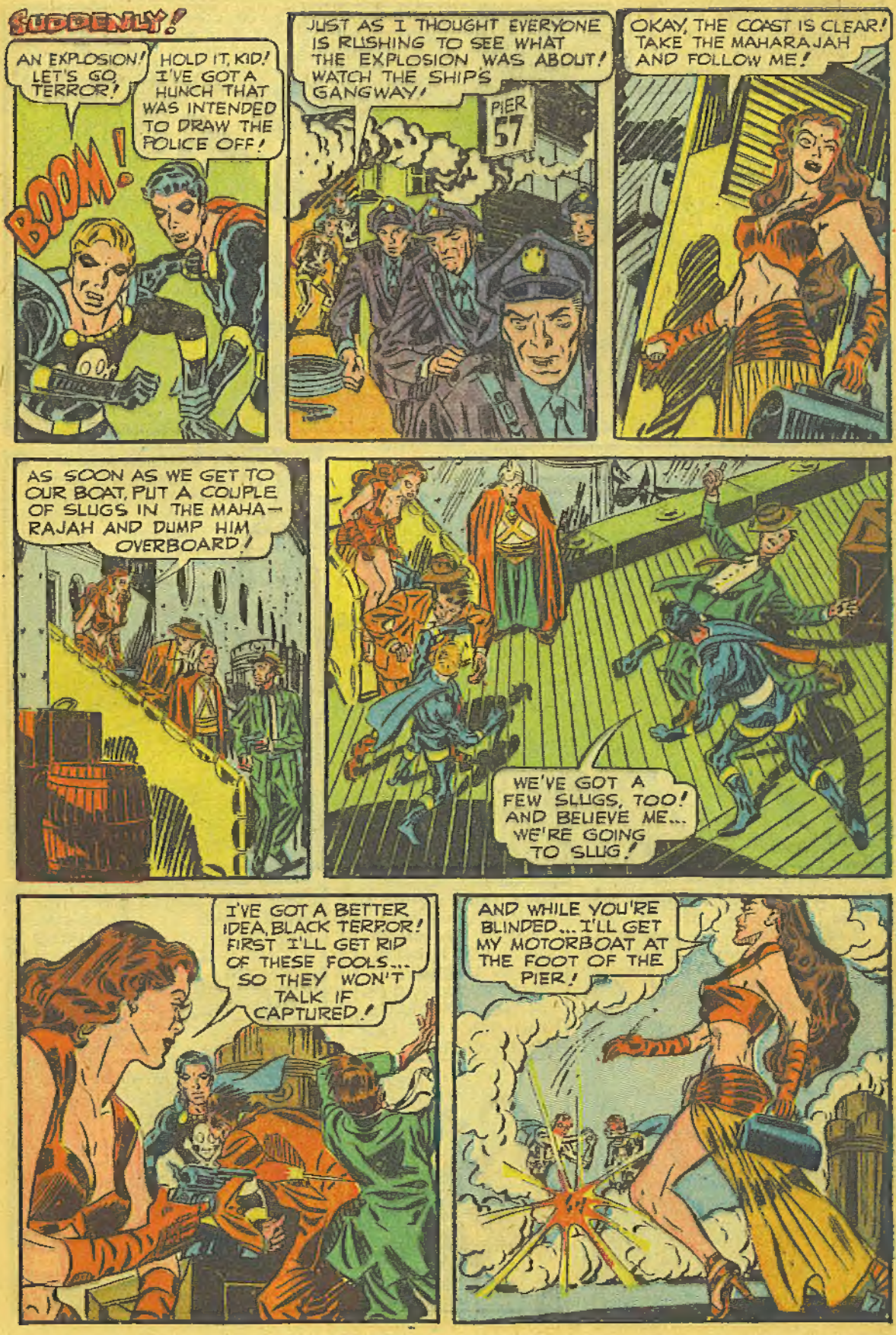
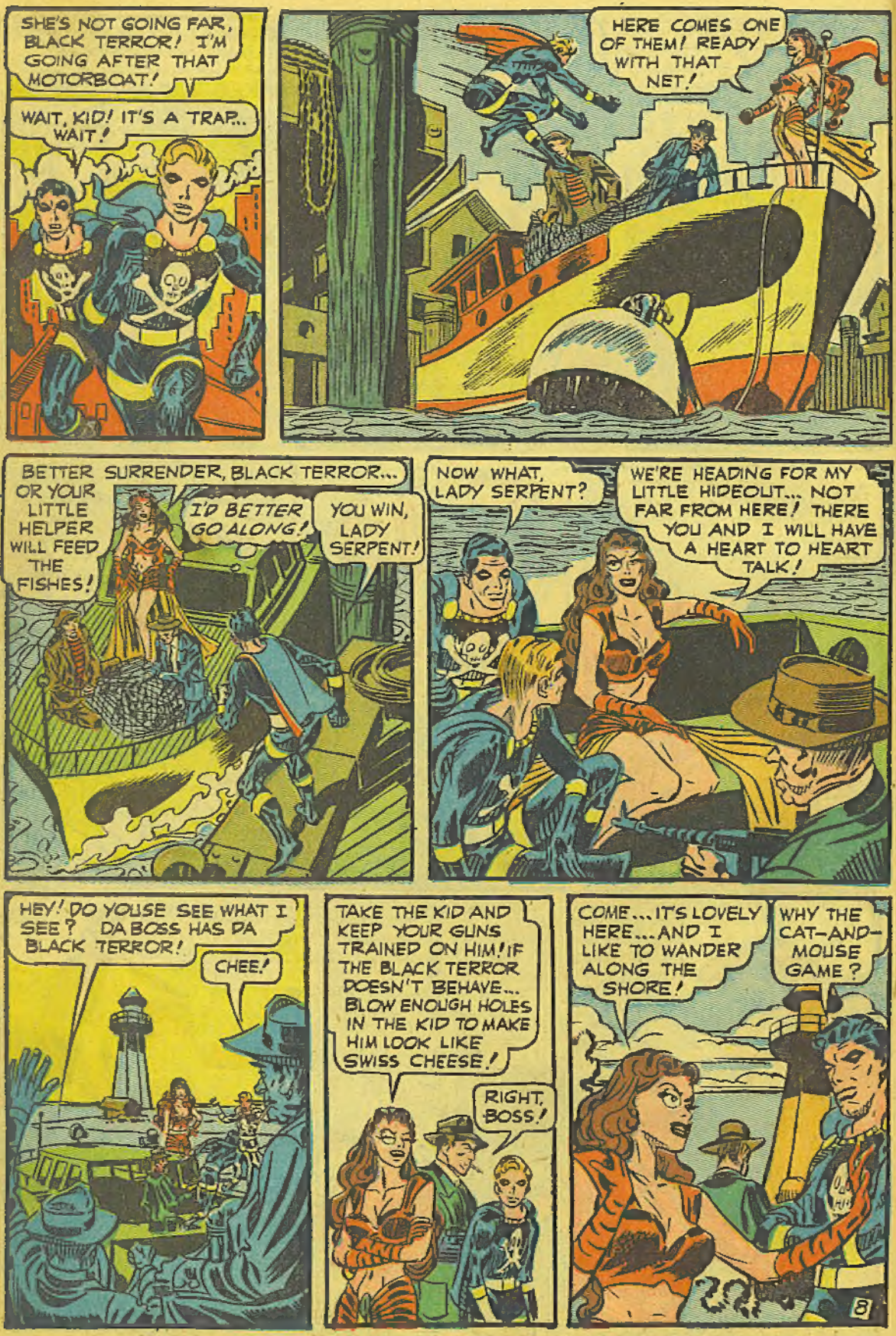

...A STRANGE LIGHT... IT BURNS INTO MY BRAIN...
YES... YOU HEAR ONLY MY VOICE... MY VOICE...
YES... I HEAR YOUR VOICE... IT TELLS ME TO OPEN THE CELL DOOR... THE... CELL... DOOR...
THIS ISN'T NECESSARY, BUT YOU REPRESENT THE LAW...
...AND I HATE THE LAW!
NOW TO CHANGE CLOTHES... AND I'LL JUST WALK OUT OF THIS FLEA BITE OF A PRISON!
GUNS! WHAT LUCK?
3

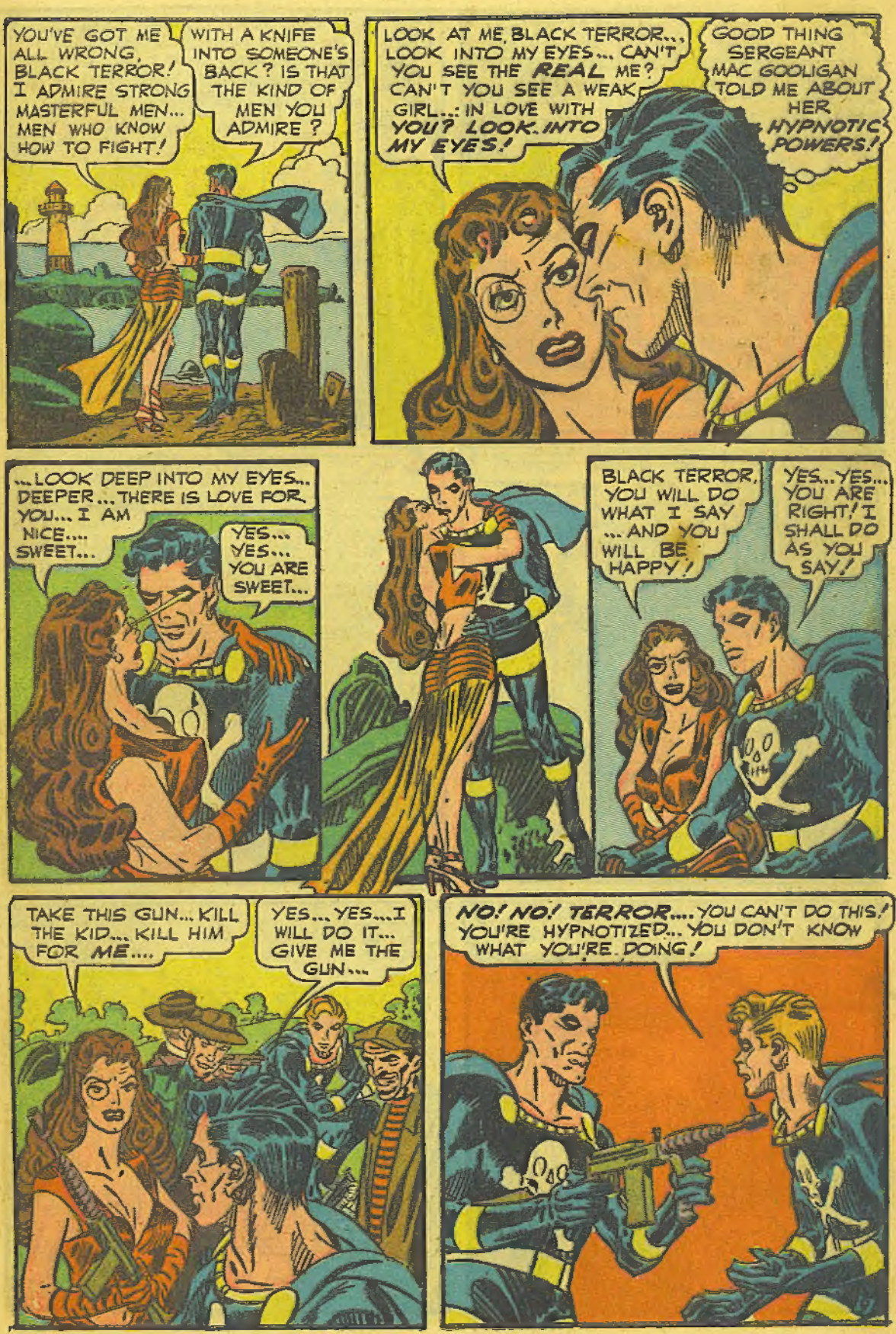
ALL RIGHT, COPPER, LEAD ME TO THE OFFICE! FAST!
SURE, SURE, LADY SERPENT— BUT YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS!
PUT ON YOUR HAT, CHIEF! I DECIDED AGAINST STAYING COOPED UP HERE UNTIL MY TRIAL.... SO I'M GOING OUT... AND YOU'RE COMING ALONG AS MY HOSTAGE! WE'LL USE YOUR CAR!
STOP OUTSIDE THE GATE AND BOTH OF YOU GET OUT! LEAVE THE MOTOR RUNNING!
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
JUST THIS! AND THAT'S BECAUSE I HATE ALL COPPERS!
RAT-TAT-TAT-TAT
WOW! SHOT THEM DOWN IN COLD BLOOD! RIGHT UNDER OUR NOSES!
IT'S THE WARDEN AND OFFICER SCHANZ!
...AND THAT'S THE STORY OF HER GETAWAY, ME BOYS! 'TIS A SAD DAY INDADE WHEN THE SERPENT LADY BROKE FREE, IT IS!
AYE, AND I'M THE SERGEANT OF THET PRECINCT WHERE LAST SHE WAS SEEN, I AM... AND IT'S TROUBLES I'LL BE HAVING!
YES, MAC GOOLIGAN SHE'S A COLD-BLOODED KILLER!

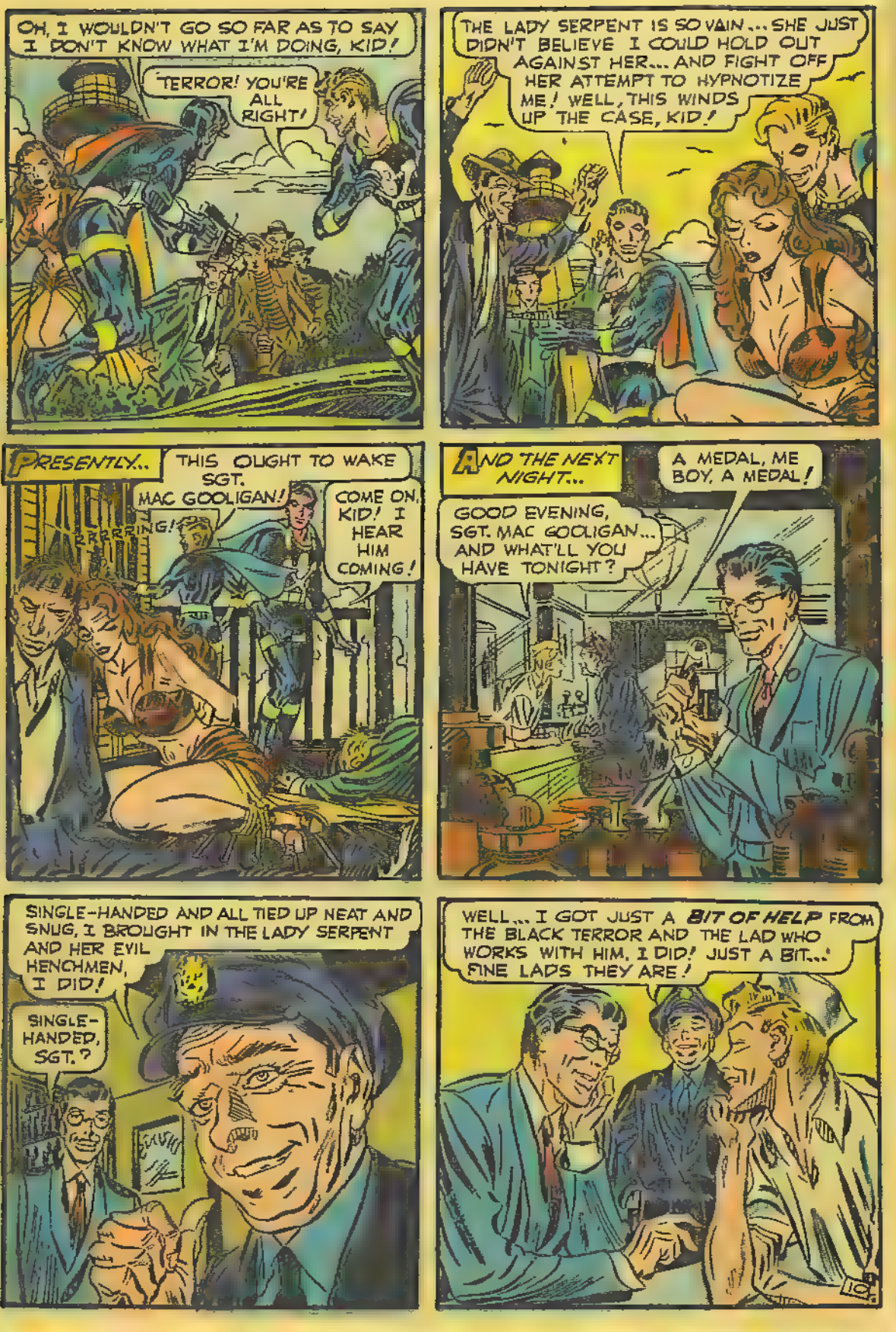
MEANWHILE, AT A DESERTED DOCK NOT FAR FROM BOB'S DRUG STORE...
OVER YOU GO...NOW TO GET RID OF THESE CLOTHES AND TAKE CHARGE OF MY BOYS AGAIN!
AT THE GANG'S HIDE-OUT...
LADY SERPENT!
DON'T BLOW YOUR TOPS, BOYS! NO JAIL CAN HOLD ME! I'VE COME BACK TO TAKE OVER!
WAIT A MINUTE! THE BLACK TERROR'S GOT YOUR NUMBER... SO THE BOYS MADE ME THE NEW BOSS! YOU'LL TAKE ORDERS!
I'LL TAKE ORDERS FROM NO ONE! I GIVE THE ORDERS AROUND HERE!
CRASH!
AND SINCE YOU DARE TO CHALLENGE ME.....
...DIE LIKE THE DOG YOU ARE!
5

TAKE THIS DEAD FOOL OUT OF HERE! THE SNAKE POISON ON THE DAGGER FINISHED HIM! ANYONE ELSE HERE WHO THINKS HE'LL MAKE A BETTER LEADER THAN I?
NO...NO... YOU'RE THE BOSS, LADY SERPENT!
ALL RIGHT, YOU STUPID LOUTS! PAY ATTENTION... I DIDN'T WASTE MY TIME WHILE IN JAIL! I FIGURED OUT A LITTLE JOB FOR US... SOMETHING I'VE WANTED TO DO FOR A LONG TIME....
WHEN SERGEANT MAC GOOLIGAN FINALLY LEAVES.....
THE LADY SERPENT ON THE LOOSE AGAIN, BOB! THAT MEANS THE TERROR TWINS HAVE TO GO TO WORK— AND FAST!
NOT TOO FAST, TIM! WE'VE GOT TO FIGURE THIS OUT BEFORE-HAND. LADY SERPENT IS NOT LIKE THE ORDINARY CRIMINAL! SHE'S CLEVER...TREACH-EROUS.... CRUEL!
...SHE ENJOYS KILLING... AND SHE'S GOT A SWELL-HEAD! ALSO, SHE LOVES BEAUTIFUL JEWELS... DOES THAT GIVE YOU AN IDEA, TIM?
I'LL SAY IT DOES! THERE'S AN ITEM IN THE PAPERS ABOUT THE MAHARAJAH OF ARGOZIL BRINGING IN A MILLION DOLLARS IN GEMS!
IT'S JUST LIKE THE LADY SERPENT TO GO AFTER THEM! THE BOAT ARRIVES TONIGHT!
STORE'S CLOSED UP FOR TONIGHT... LET'S GET GOING!
HOURS LATER AT THE DOCK...
THAT'S THE LAST OF THE PASSENGERS, KID! BUT THE MAHA-RAJAH HASN'T COME OFF YET...
THINGS SURE LOOK PEACEFUL! MAYBE WE OVERESTIMATED LADY SERPENT'S ABILITY?
6

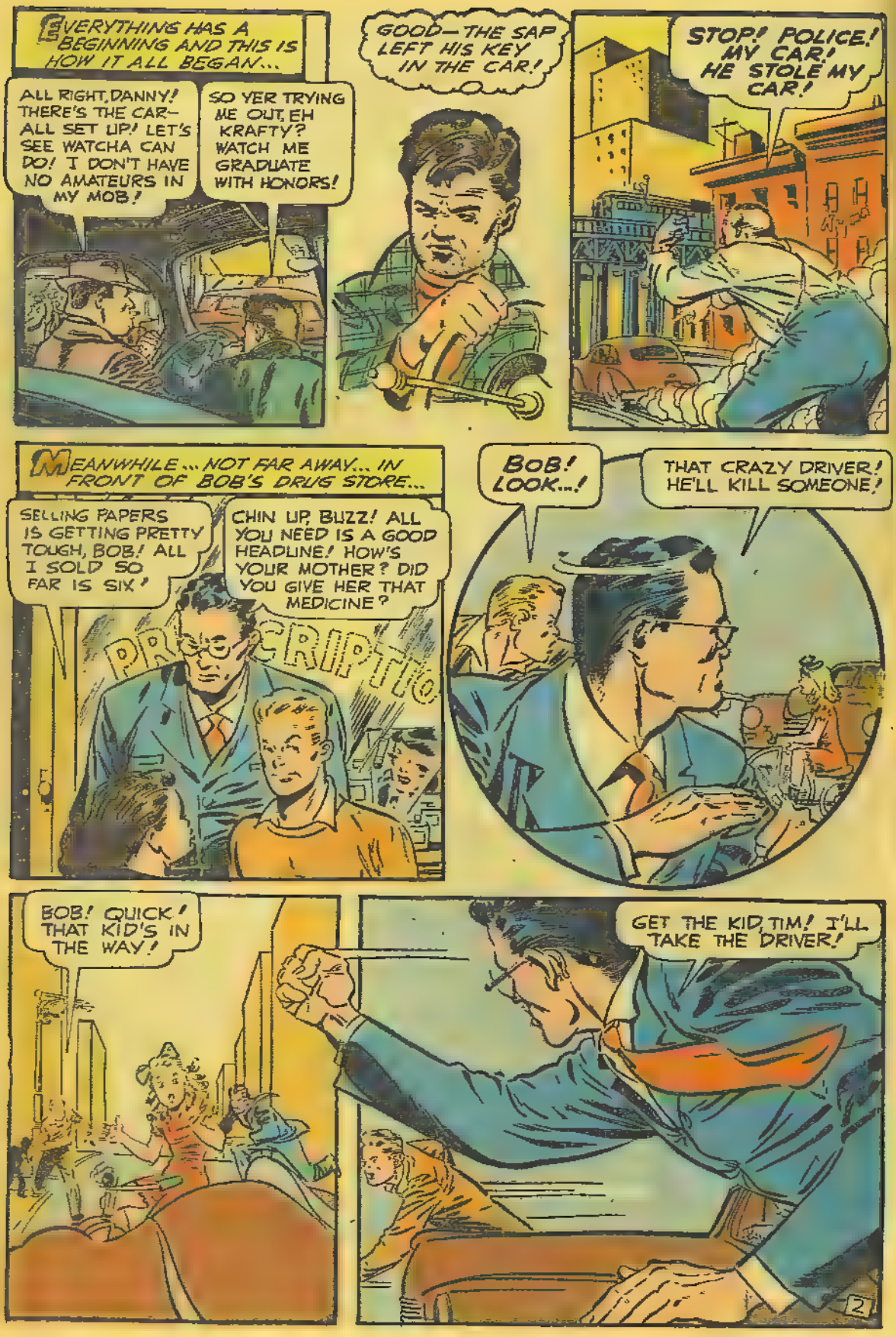

SUDDENLY!
AN EXPLOSION! LET'S GO, TERROR!
HOLD IT, KID! I'VE GOT A HUNCH THAT WAS INTENDED TO DRAW THE POLICE OFF!
BOOM!
JUST AS I THOUGHT EVERYONE IS RUSHING TO SEE WHAT THE EXPLOSION WAS ABOUT! WATCH THE SHIP'S GANGWAY!
PIER 57
OKAY, THE COAST IS CLEAR! TAKE THE MAHARAJAH AND FOLLOW ME!
AS SOON AS WE GET TO OUR BOAT, PUT A COUPLE OF SLUGS IN THE MAHA-RAJAH AND DUMP HIM OVERBOARD!
WE'VE GOT A FEW SLUGS, TOO! AND BELIEVE ME... WE'RE GOING TO SLUG!
I'VE GOT A BETTER IDEA, BLACK TERROR! FIRST I'LL GET RID OF THESE FOOLS... SO THEY WON'T TALK IF CAPTURED!
AND WHILE YOU'RE BLINDED... I'LL GET MY MOTORBOAT AT THE FOOT OF THE PIER!

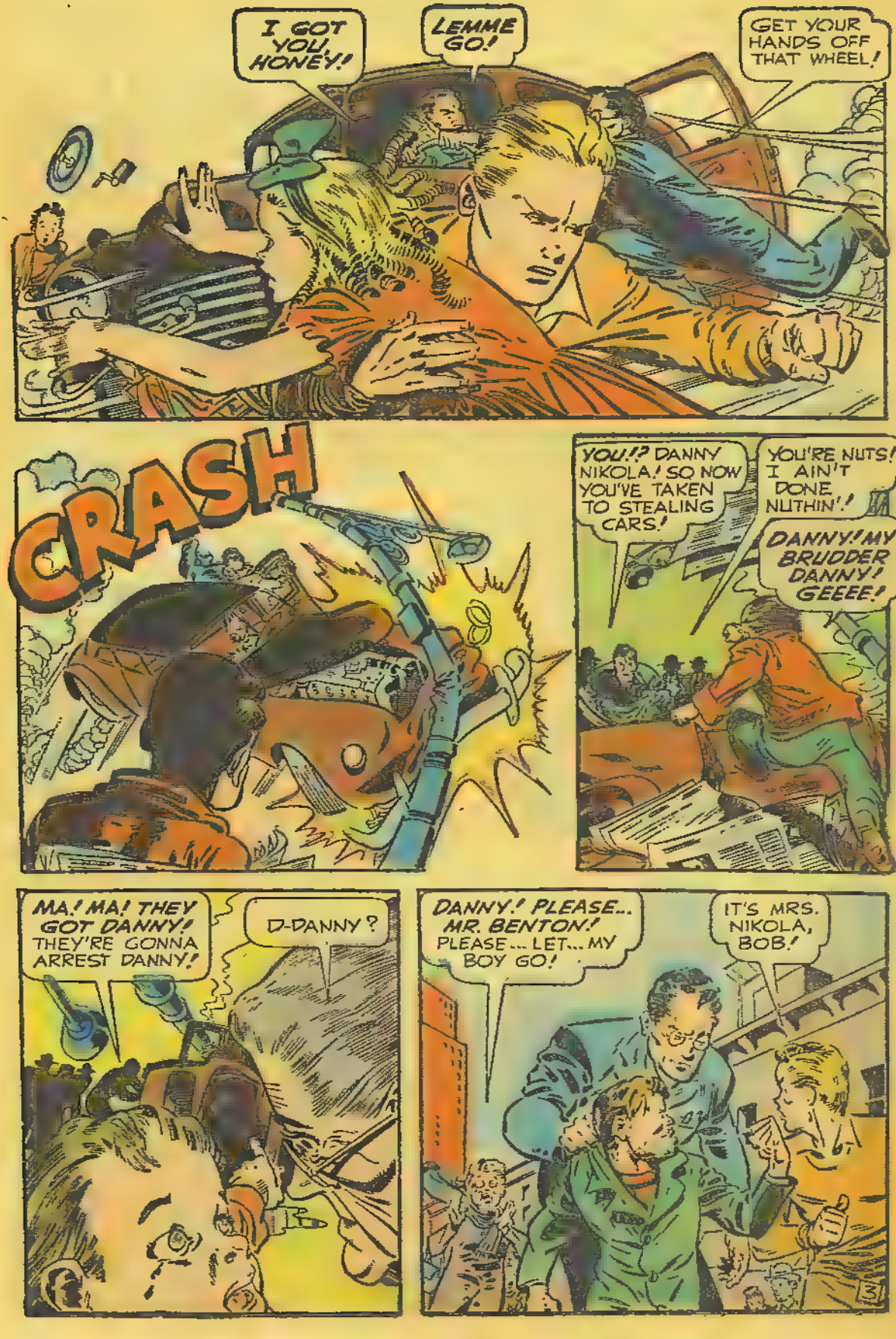

SHE'S NOT GOING FAR, BLACK TERROR! I'M GOING AFTER THAT MOTORBOAT!
WAIT, KID! IT'S A TRAP... WAIT!
HERE COMES ONE OF THEM! READY WITH THAT NET!
BETTER SURRENDER, BLACK TERROR... OR YOUR LITTLE HELPER WILL FEED THE FISHES!
I'D BETTER GO ALONG!
YOU WIN, LADY SERPENT!
NOW WHAT, LADY SERPENT?
WE'RE HEADING FOR MY LITTLE HIDEOUT... NOT FAR FROM HERE! THERE YOU AND I WILL HAVE A HEART TO HEART TALK!
HEY! DO YOUSE SEE WHAT I SEE? DA BOSS HAS DA BLACK TERROR!
CHEE!
TAKE THE KID AND KEEP YOUR GUNS TRAINED ON HIM! IF THE BLACK TERROR DOESN'T BEHAVE... BLOW ENOUGH HOLES IN THE KID TO MAKE HIM LOOK LIKE SWISS CHEESE!
RIGHT, BOSS!
COME... IT'S LOVELY HERE... AND I LIKE TO WANDER ALONG THE SHORE!
WHY THE CAT-AND-MOUSE GAME?
8

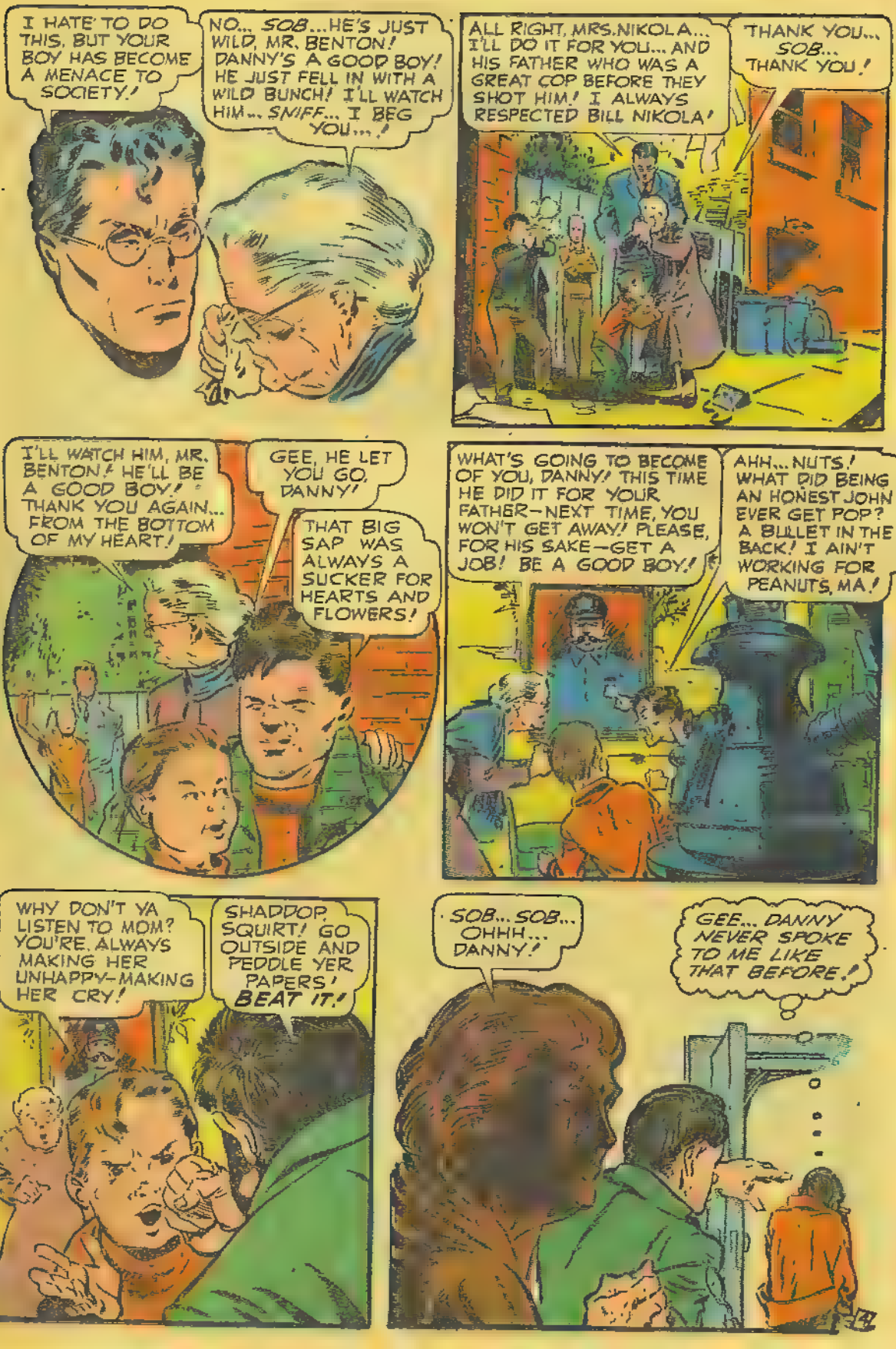

YOU'VE GOT ME ALL WRONG, BLACK TERROR! I ADMIRE STRONG MASTERFUL MEN... MEN WHO KNOW HOW TO FIGHT!
WITH A KNIFE INTO SOMEONE'S BACK? IS THAT THE KIND OF MEN YOU ADMIRE?
LOOK AT ME, BLACK TERROR... LOOK INTO MY EYES... CAN'T YOU SEE THE REAL ME? CAN'T YOU SEE A WEAK GIRL...: IN LOVE WITH YOU? LOOK INTO MY EYES!
GOOD THING SERGEANT MAC GOOLIGAN TOLD ME ABOUT HER HYPNOTIC POWERS!
...LOOK DEEP INTO MY EYES... DEEPER... THERE IS LOVE FOR YOU... I AM NICE... SWEET...
YES... YES... YOU ARE SWEET...
BLACK TERROR, YOU WILL DO WHAT I SAY ... AND YOU WILL BE HAPPY!
YES...YES... YOU ARE RIGHT! I SHALL DO AS YOU SAY!
TAKE THIS GUN... KILL THE KID... KILL HIM FOR ME....
YES... YES... I WILL DO IT... GIVE ME THE GUN...
NO! NO! TERROR.... YOU CAN'T DO THIS! YOU'RE HYPNOTIZED... YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING!


OH, I WOULDN'T GO SO FAR AS TO SAY I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M DOING, KID!
"TERROR! YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!
THE LADY SERPENT IS SO VAIN... SHE JUST DIDN'T BELIEVE I COULD HOLD OUT AGAINST HER... AND FIGHT OFF HER ATTEMPT TO HYPNOTIZE ME! WELL, THIS WINDS UP THE CASE, KID!
PRESENTLY..
THIS OUGHT TO WAKE SGT. MAC GOOLIGAN!
RRRRRING!
COME ON, KID! I HEAR HIM COMING!
AND THE NEXT NIGHT...
A MEDAL, ME BOY, A MEDAL!
GOOD EVENING, SGT. MAC GOOLIGAN... AND WHAT'LL YOU HAVE TONIGHT?
SINGLE-HANDED AND ALL TIED UP NEAT AND SNUG, I BROUGHT IN THE LADY SERPENT AND HER EVIL HENCHMEN, I DID!
SINGLE-HANDED, SGT.?
WELL... I GOT JUST A BIT OF HELP FROM THE BLACK TERROR AND THE LAD WHO WORKS WITH HIM, I DID! JUST A BIT...! FINE LADS THEY ARE!
IC.

THE BLACK TERROR
Where does the path of "easy money" lead? To danger and death... to heartache, tears and shattered faith! That was the path taken by young Danny... and in his footsteps came his little brother, Buzz... until The Black Terror stepped in and opened...
"The ROAD TO REVENGE!"
B-229


EVERYTHING HAS A BEGINNING AND THIS IS HOW IT ALL BEGAN...
ALL RIGHT, DANNY! THERE'S THE CAR— ALL SET UP! LET'S SEE WATCHA CAN DO! I DON'T HAVE NO AMATEURS IN MY MOB!
SO YER TRYING ME OUT, EH KRAFTY? WATCH ME GRADUATE WITH HONORS!
GOOD—THE SAP LEFT HIS KEY IN THE CAR!
STOP! POLICE! MY CAR! HE STOLE MY CAR!
MEANWHILE... NOT FAR AWAY... IN FRONT OF BOB'S DRUG STORE...
SELLING PAPERS IS GETTING PRETTY TOUGH, BOB! ALL I SOLD SO FAR IS SIX!
CHIN UP, BUZZ! ALL YOU NEED IS A GOOD HEADLINE! HOW'S YOUR MOTHER? DID YOU GIVE HER THAT MEDICINE?
PRESCRIPTIO
BOB! LOOK...!
THAT CRAZY DRIVER! HE'LL KILL SOMEONE!
BOB! QUICK! THAT KID'S IN THE WAY!
GET THE KID, TIM! I'LL TAKE THE DRIVER!
2


I GOT YOU, HONEY!
LEMME GO!
GET YOUR HANDS OFF THAT WHEEL!
CRASH
YOU!? DANNY NIKOLA! SO NOW YOU'VE TAKEN TO STEALING CARS!
YOU'RE NUTS! I AIN'T DONE NUTHIN'!
DANNY! MY BRUDDER DANNY! GEEEE!
MA! MA! THEY GOT DANNY! THEY'RE GONNA ARREST DANNY!
D-DANNY?
DANNY! PLEASE... MR. BENTON! PLEASE... LET... MY BOY GO!
IT'S MRS. NIKOLA, BOB!
3


I HATE TO DO THIS, BUT YOUR BOY HAS BECOME A MENACE TO SOCIETY!
NO... SOB... HE'S JUST WILD, MR. BENTON! DANNY'S A GOOD BOY! HE JUST FELL IN WITH A WILD BUNCH! I'LL WATCH HIM... SNIFF... I BEG YOU...!
ALL RIGHT, MRS. NIKOLA... I'LL DO IT FOR YOU... AND HIS FATHER WHO WAS A GREAT COP BEFORE THEY SHOT HIM! I ALWAYS RESPECTED BILL NIKOLA!
THANK YOU... SOB... THANK YOU!
I'LL WATCH HIM, MR. BENTON! HE'LL BE A GOOD BOY! THANK YOU AGAIN... FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART!
GEE, HE LET YOU GO, DANNY!
THAT BIG SAP WAS ALWAYS A SUCKER FOR HEARTS AND FLOWERS!
WHAT'S GOING TO BECOME OF YOU, DANNY! THIS TIME HE DID IT FOR YOUR FATHER—NEXT TIME, YOU WON'T GET AWAY! PLEASE, FOR HIS SAKE—GET A JOB! BE A GOOD BOY!
AHH... NUTS! WHAT DID BEING AN HONEST JOHN EVER GET POP? A BULLET IN THE BACK! I AIN'T WORKING FOR PEANUTS, MA!
WHY DON'T YA LISTEN TO MOM? YOU'RE ALWAYS MAKING HER UNHAPPY—MAKING HER CRY!
SHADDOP, SQUIRT! GO OUTSIDE AND PEDDLE YER PAPERS! BEAT IT!
SOB... SOB... OHHH... DANNY!
GEE... DANNY NEVER SPOKE TO ME LIKE THAT BEFORE!

DON'T CRY, MA! I GOT SOME BIG BUSINESS DEALS ON THAT'S GOING TO GIVE ME PLENTY OF DOUGH! WE'LL MOVE OUT OF THIS DUMPY NEIGHBORHOOD AND GET YOU SOME NEW CLOTHES!
SOB... IF ONLY YOUR FATHER WAS ALIVE!
LATER... IN THE REAR OF A GARAGE OWNED BY KRAFTY...
HI, KRAFTY!
WELL, LOOKS LIKE YUH DIDN'T DO SO GOOD, EH, DANNY?
SO WHAT? NEXT TIME I'LL DO BETTER! AM I IN THE MOB OR NOT?
I LIKE A KID WITH GUTS!
OKAY, DANNY, YOU'RE IN! AND WE GOT SOME BIG PLANS!
SHORTLY AFTERWARDS... A SERIES OF DARING ROBBERIES ROCK THE CITY...
STEP ON IT, DANNY!
BANG!
BANG!
BANG!
BANG!
BANG!
HELP! POLICE!
BANG!
BANG!
5

IN BOB'S DRUG STORE...
HOW'S YOUR BROTHER, BUZZ?
I DON'T SEE MUCH OF HIM LATELY! HE'S BUSY ON SOME IMPORTANT BUSINESS OR SOMETHING!
IMPORTANT BUSINESS? HE'S...WELL, LOOK WHO'S COMING!
HIYA, BOYS! WHAT'VE YOU GOT IN SOME MEN'S FANCY PERFUME?
DANNY!
HULLO, BUZZ! HEY, GIMME THOSE PAPERS!
DON'T DANNY... DON'T! I GOTTA SELL 'EM!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SELL NO PAPERS WHEN YER BROTHER IS A BIG SHOT! HERE—G'WAN OUT AND HAVE A GOOD TIME!
TEN BUCKS!
WOW! ALL MINE!
DOING PRETTY WELL, EH, DANNY?
NO KICK COMING! DIDJA SEE THE LOOK ON THE KID'S FACE? HEH! HEH!
AWRIGHT! I'M COMING!
HONK!
HONK!
UH OH—TWO OF KRAFTY'S GORILLAS IN THAT CAR! TOO BAD DANNY IS GETTING MIXED UP IN THAT KIND OF COMPANY!

SHORTLY AFTERWARDS...
WE'RE THROUGH WITH THAT PETTY CASH STUFF! THERE'S A HUNDRED GRAND IN UNCUT DIAMONDS IN COLLINS' BOX—AND WE'RE GOING TO TAKE IT TONIGHT!
GEE, KRAFTY! I SAW THAT JEWELER'S BOX AND IT WOULDN'T BE HARD TO CRACK! WHATTA HAUL!
NOT SO EASY, STUPID! HE'S GOT A GOOD BURGLAR ALARM SET UP—AND WE GOTTA GET AROUND DAT FIRST! NOW IF WE HAD SOMEBODY SMALL ENOUGH TO CRAWL THROUGH THE TRANSOM, HE COULD DISCONNECT...
IS MY BROTHER DANNY HERE?
HEY, DANNY—LOOK! I BOUGHT THIS PITCHER'S MITT! AIN'T IT A BEAUTY?
BEAT IT! CAN'TCHA SEE I'M BUSY! GET OUT OF HERE!
WAIT! THE KID COULD DO THAT TRANSOM JOB!
NIX! NOT MY KID BROTHER! NO!
WHY NOT? NOTHING'S GOING TO HAPPEN! LET THE KID MAKE A LITTLE DOUGH! AND DO US A FAVOR, TOO!
YEAH, DANNY, I'LL BE GLAD TO DO YOU A FAVOR!
SWELL KID. I LOST THE KEY TO MY OFFICE AND CAN'T GET IN—AIN'T THAT SO, DANNY?
I'LL DO ANYTHING YOU TELL ME, MR. KRAFTY!
YEH... YEH!
7

I'VE LOOKED EVERYWHERE FOR MY BUZZ—BUT I CAN'T FIND HIM! I'M SO WORRIED, BOB! HE'S NEVER BEEN OUT THIS LATE BEFORE!
STOP WORRYING, MRS NIKOLA! MAYBE HE'S WITH DANNY!
NO, MY DANNY SAID HE—HE WAS GOING TO DIG IN A DIAMOND MINE OR SOMETHING! HE GOT BUSINESS TONIGHT! BUT MY BUZZ—
DIAMOND MINE? ER... I SEE! WHY DON'T YOU GO HOME FOR A LITTLE SLEEP! I'M CLOSING UP NOW AND TIM AND I WILL LOOK AROUND FOR HIM!
THAT DIAMOND MINE BUSINESS SPELLS ONLY ONE THING THOSE UNCUT DIAMONDS AT COLLINS' PLACE! THAT MEANS IT'S TIME FOR THE BLACK TERROR TO DEAL HIMSELF A HAND!
KRAFTY MUST BE AFTER HIGH STAKES!
ON A ROOF ADJOINING THE OFFICE OF THE JEWELER...
YOU WERE RIGHT, TERROR! LOOK—A FLASHLIGHT IN COLLINS' OFFICE! BUT HOW ARE WE GOING TO GET IN THERE!
THE CLOTHESLINE ON THIS ROOF IS ONE WAY!
IF THIS WILL WRAP ITSELF AROUND THAT CORNICE—!
LOOKS LIKE IT DID, TERROR! NOW WHAT?
NOW, HANG ON, TIM! WE SHOULD GO RIGHT THROUGH COLLINS' WINDOW OR—!
BRRR... DON'T THINK OF THAT ALTERNATIVE! WE'LL ONLY BOUNCE ONCE!
CRASH!

GEE! THE BLACK TERROR!
MY, MY— GETTING SOFT IN THE HEAD!
SORRY TO BREAK IN LIKE THIS—BUT WE DON'T THINK YOU'LL LIKE THOSE DIAMONDS!
I'M ALWAYS PREPARED FOR EMERGENCIES, BOYS!
TRY SOME TEAR GAS, TERROR! WONDERFUL STUFF FOR THE EYES!
WHOOSH!
GET GOING! WE ONLY GOT A COUPLE SECONDS!
MY BROTHER KNOWS OUR HIDE-OUT... HE.. HE'LL TALK! GET HIM OUT OF THIS!
COUGH!
COUGH!
GET OUT OF HERE! DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE KID! I'LL TAKE CARE OF HIM!
MY EYES! I...I CAN'T SEE! DANNY..!
THE TEAR GAS IS WEARING OFF! AFTER THEM, KID!
SURE...I'LL TAKE CARE OF HIM! LIKE I TAKE CARE OF ALL MY BOYS WHO CAN'T MAKE IT ON THEIR OWN!
YOU MURDEROUS RAT—!
AGHH...!
BANG!

WELL—WE GOT THE HUNDRED GRAND IN DIAMONDS, EH, KRAFTY? JUST LIKE YOU SAID WE WOULD!
AND DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE KID! I TOOK CARE OF HIM! DANNY!
HE'S STILL ALIVE! BUT WE MUST GET HIM TO THE HOSPITAL—AND FAST! HE'S BADLY HURT!
HE'LL BE ALL RIGHT! YOU GOT HIM HERE JUST IN TIME, TERROR!
BUZZ... BUZZ... CAN YOU HEAR ME? WHERE DID DANNY AND THOSE MEN GO?
DON'T... HURT... DANNY! MOANN.
I WON'T HURT HIM, BUZZ! I WANT TO HELP HIM! WHERE DID THEY GO? TELL ME!
I HEARD THEM SAY... THEY'D MEET... AT LILY'S ROADHOUSE...!
LILY'S ROADHOUSE! HMM...THAT'S THAT ABANDONED PLACE ON ROUTE THREE! WE'RE GOING AFTER THAT DEVIL, TIM! HE WON'T SHOOT HELPLESS CHILDREN ANYMORE! NOT WHEN I GET THROUGH WITH HIM!
AT LILY'S ROADHOUSE...
...AND THE THUGS MADE THEIR ESCAPE WITH ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS IN UNCUT DIAMONDS. A YOUNG BOY FOOLED INTO HELPING THE CROOKS WAS SHOT BY THE GANG LEADER! QUICK ACTION BY THE BLACK TERROR SAVED HIS LIFE!
BUZZ...!
YOU—YOU SHOT MY KID BROTHER!
SO WHAT? HE WUZ IN THE WAY AND THERE AIN'T NO ROOM FOR SENTIMENT IN THIS RACKET!

I'M SICK OF YOUR WHINING! NOW KEEP YER YAP SHUT, OR YOU'LL GET THE SAME THING I GAVE YER OLD MAN!
MY OLD MAN! THEN YOU PLUGGED MY FATHER... IN THE BACK! YOU—!
YOU YELLOW RAT! SHOOT MY (SOB) FATHER, WILL YA? SHOOT MY BROTHER! I'LL KILL YA... I'LL KILL YA!
YOUR FATHER WAS A COPPER, WASN'T HE? SO— AGHHH! GET.. HIM OFF ME! GAHH!
YOU'LL PAY FOR... AGHH! I'LL KILL...
BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG!
CRASH!
DANNY!
SEE IF HE'S ALL RIGHT, TIM! I'LL MOP THIS GARBAGE UP!
POW!
DON'T HIT ME! WE GIVE UP! IT'S ALL KRAFTY'S FAULT!
THEY... THEY'RE BOTH DEAD!
POOR DANNY! LOOKS LIKE HE PAID HIS BILL IN FULL!

YOUNG DEERHUNTER'S TRAIL

By Charles Stewart

YOUNG DEERHUNTER was a Yellowknife Indian boy. He considered himself much older than his twelve years of age, but his father and older brothers would not let him go out on the trail with them. One afternoon, when he was home in his log and mud dwelling with his mother and sisters, there was the sound of boots on the rocks of the trail and Constable Paul Miller of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police came into sight.

Constable Miller was new in the North and while he had undergone training with one of the old-timer sergeants, there were still many things he didn't know. The constable stopped beside Deerhunter's mother and spoke to her in the native tongue.

"I am looking for a guide. Is there one of your men about to help me? I am searching for old man McTavish. I have word of him all the way up to the fork of Ash Creek and the Mackenzie, but there he set out overland. There are only moose trails there, and I do not know enough about them to follow the trail."

"Young Deerhunter is the only man in the camp now," his mother said.

The Mountie looked at the boy and shook his head slowly. The Yellowknife boy knew that until he proved himself a real guide no one would take him seriously. He stepped up and said:

"Redcoat, I shall be glad to guide you. I know the trails of the North like the lines of my hand. I will help you to find Old Man McTavish."

After some moments the Mountie shrugged, then replied:

"If you are willing to go, so be it. But if your father or brothers come back I would take it as a great favor if your mother would send one of them along to help us."

Young Deerhunter spoke to his mother. Then he gathered up his small trail pack, took a rifle his father had given him on his tenth birthday, and said: "I am ready, Redcoat."

THE Mountie and the Indian lad started off. As they walked the officer told the boy how McTavish had last been seen by a police patrol plane as he left his canoe to take up the trail of a moose who had been down to the river for a drink. The canoe was still near the forks of the Ash and the Mackenzie, but there was no sign of the Scotch trapper.

Young Deerhunter looked over the situation, then set out along the game trail with the Mountie following him. The boy moved continually toward the south. Constable Miller was puzzled. There was no sign that he could see. Finally he asked: "Are you sure you are going the right way?"

"But certainly," Deerhunter replied. Then he pointed to the blueberry bushes that lined the trail and said: "You will see here. The blueberries on the north side of the bushes have all been eaten. The moose would eat them as he came along; and McTavish would also feed on them, since he left most of his supplies with the canoe."

This was a logical deduction, and the Mountie gained more confidence in the young Indian trapper. Finally the

blueberry bushes gave out. Young Deerhunter took a mosquito netting out of his pack and draped it over his head and shoulders. His hands were covered with leather gauntlets and he wore high leather leggings. Constable Miller followed the boy's example.

"We are coming into fly country," the Indian boy declared.

Almost before the lad had voiced the words, the uniform and clothing of the pair were covered by black flies and mosquitoes. They went on for another mile or so, beating off the flies and mosquitoes.

A grim touch came to Deerhunter's countenance, and he said:

"If we do not find McTavish soon, it will be bad for him, unless he is down in the mud."

"McTavish?" Constable Miller repeated. "I thought we were trailing the moose."

"It is so," Deerhunter replied. "The moose I can show you in a moment."

The boy pushed through some undergrowth that lined a swamp, and out in the middle of this bog there was a stretch of open water with a muddy bottom and reed-grown fringes.

DEERHUNTER pointed a gloved hand in the direction of a brown smear that looked like an overgrown mushroom.

"There is the moose," he said simply. "He does not like the black flies and mosquitoes any more than we do. So he is almost entirely immersed in the water. Very little of him is above the water, but it is enough for him to breathe and see. Besides, he can browse on the soft lily shoots."

Constable Miller nodded, then asked: "But what does that prove about Old Man McTavish?"

It means he is some place nearby," Deerhunter declared. "If he caught up with the moose he would have shot him. Something must have happened to him. Maybe he fell and hurt himself."

The mounted policeman and the Indian boy circled around the swamp where the moose had sought refuge and suddenly they heard a cry for help. They moved into a thicket and there they saw the dirty figure of the old Scotch trapper. His face and hands were covered with mud which he had scooped up to defeat the flies and mosquitoes. He looked up at his rescuers and there was a faint smile on his dirty face.

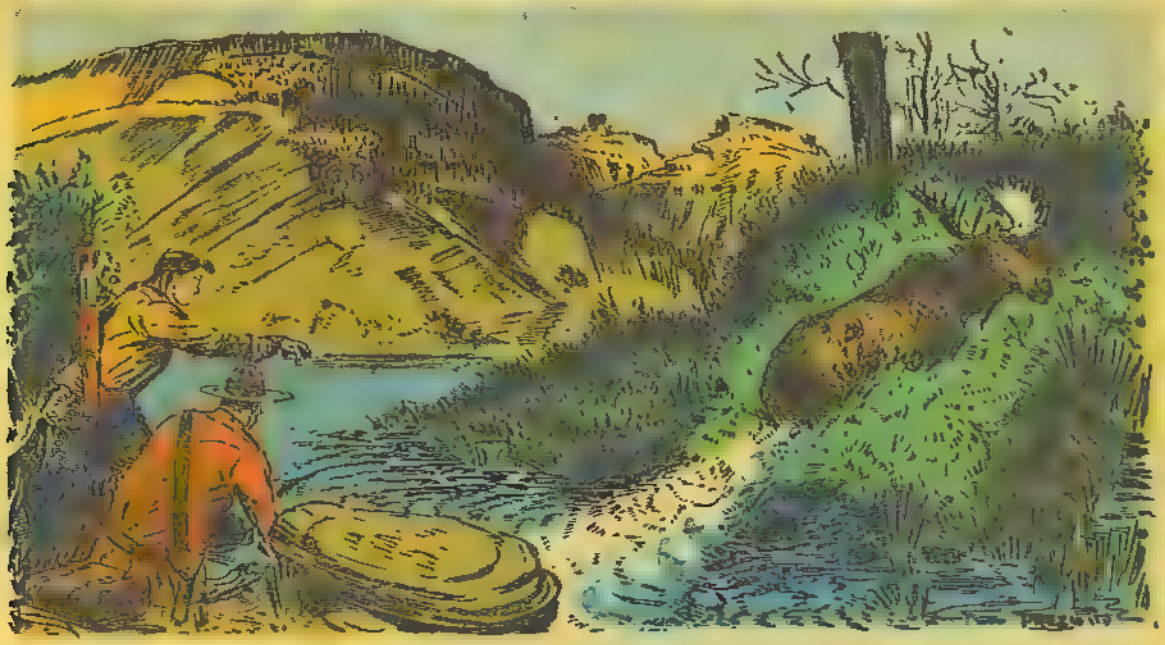
"You're a pleasant sight," McTavish said. "I think I've broken my leg. But what brought you up here?"

"It's your nephew," explained the Mountie. "He's back at your cabin. When he didn't find you there, he figured something happened to you."

"This is a good job for a rookie Mountie," McTavish said as the officer and the Indian boy helped him back to his canoe on an improvised stretcher made of birch poles and coats.

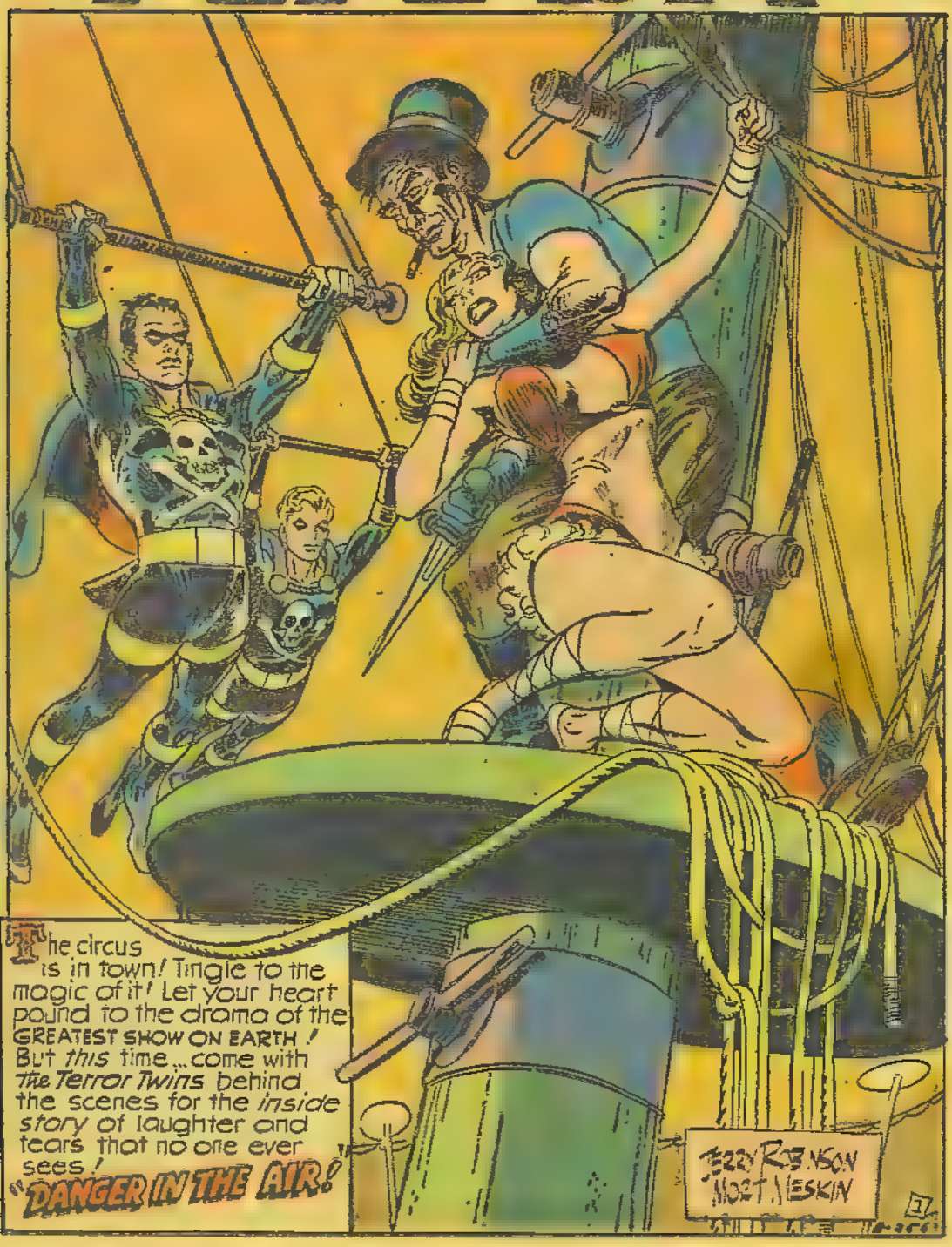
"It's a good job for Young Deerhunter, too," Miller said proudly. "I'm sure when his father hears how he has helped to save your life, he'll know that Young Deerhunter is a full-fledged brave!"

The Indian boy was delighted with this praise. Now he was a real man!



A Yellowknife Stripling Aids a Rookie Redcoat

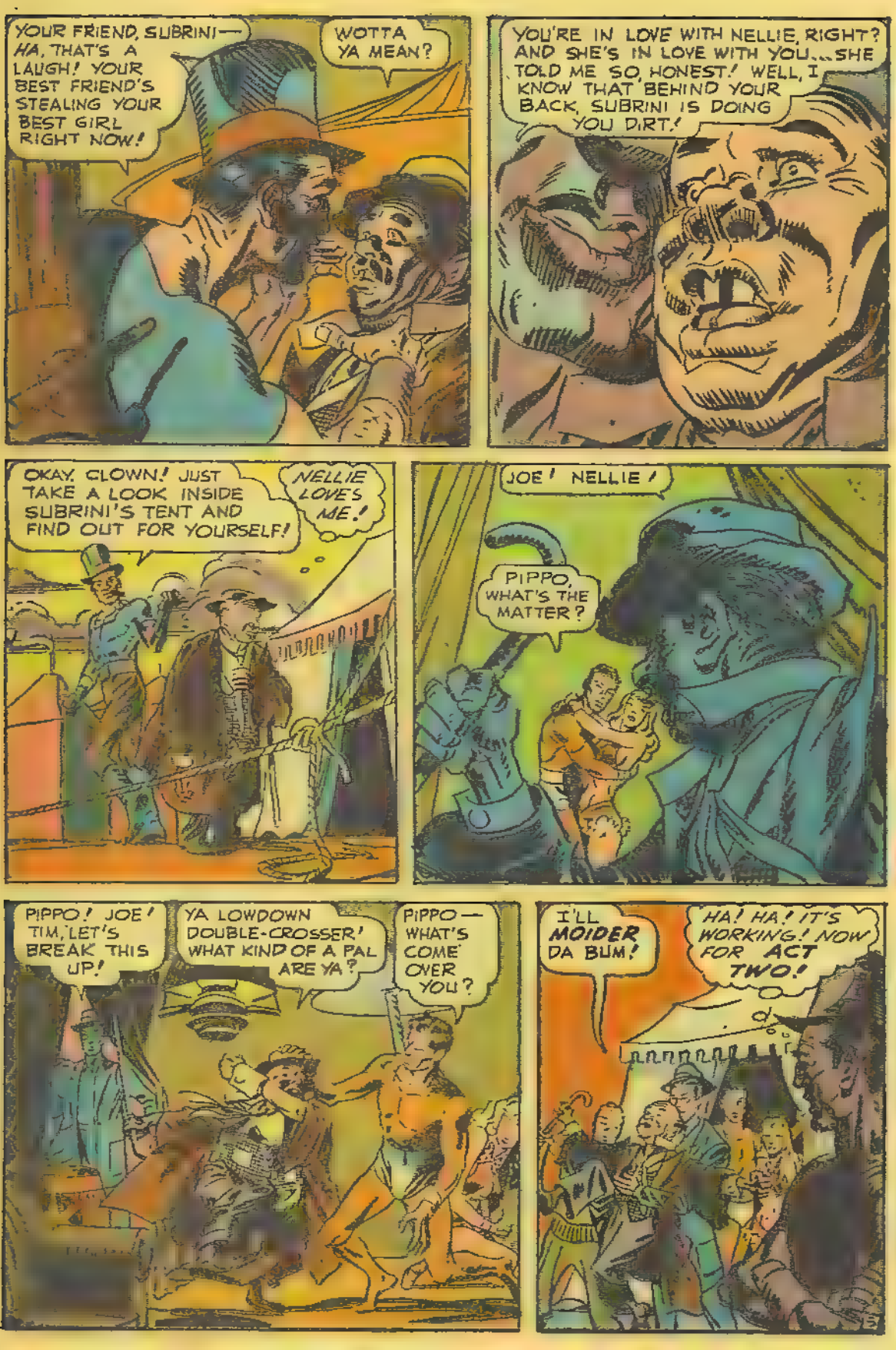
the BLACK TERROR


The circus is in town! Tingle to the magic of it! Let your heart pound to the drama of the GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH! But this time...come with The Terror Twins behind the scenes for the inside story of laughter and tears that no one ever sees!
"DANGER IN THE AIR!"
JERRY ROBINSON
MORT MESKIN

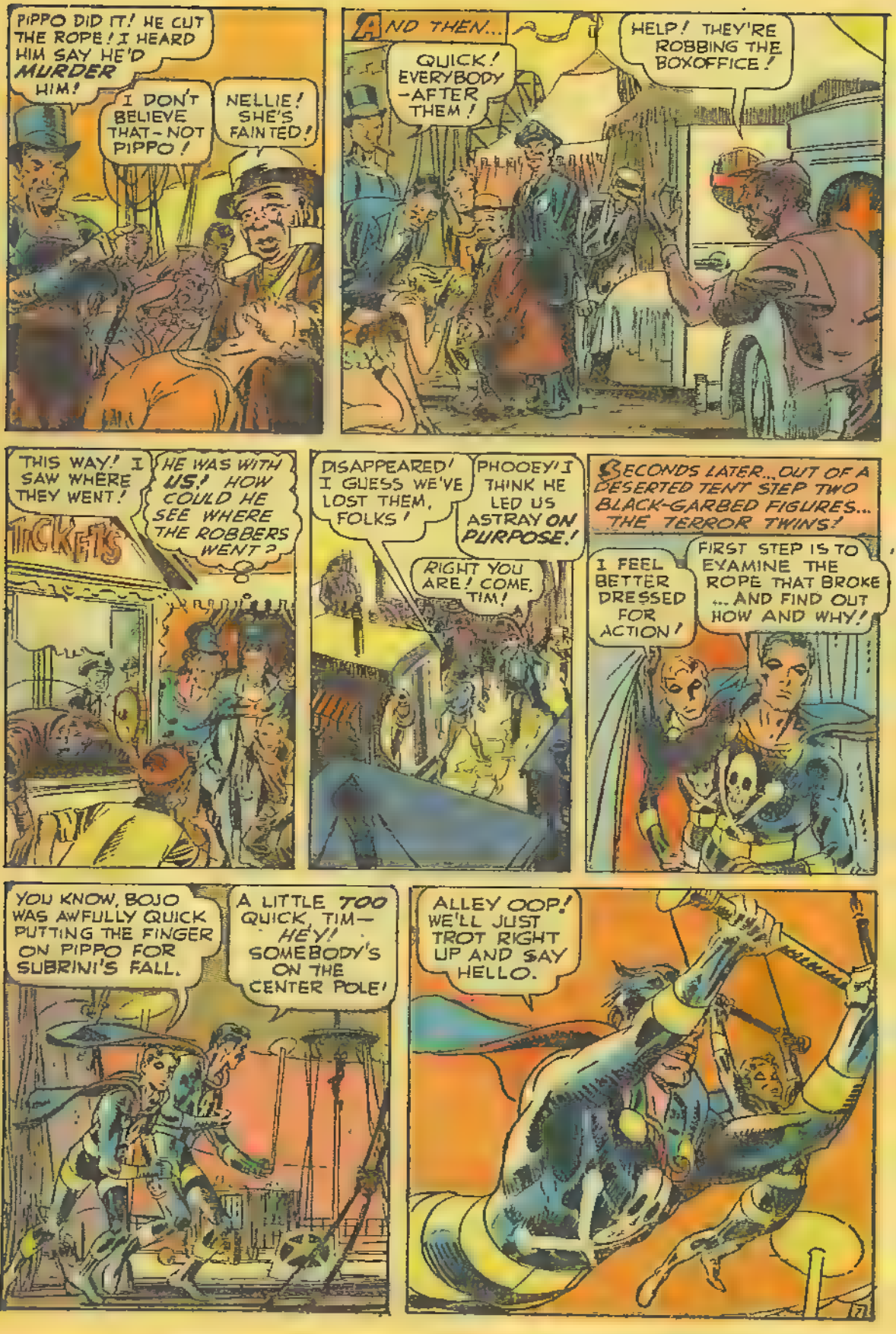
THE MORNING BEFORE THE SHOW..
OKAY... IT'S ALL SET. I'LL LEAD THE CROWD DOWN THE WRONG WAY AFTER YOU GUYS TAKE CARE OF THE BOXOFFICE. WE'LL SPLIT THE TAKE LATER.
OKAY, BOJO! WE GOT YA!
THE MAIN THING IS TO KEEP ME CLEAR. IF MY PRISON RECORD EVER GOT OUT...
RIGHT, BOSS!
NELLIE, AFTER TONIGHT— WE'LL BE ON EASY STREET. STICK WITH ME, BABY, AND YOU'LL BE WEARING MINK!
NO, BOJO, THAT'S NOT FOR ME!
THIS ISN'T THE KIND OF LIFE I WANT, BOJO. I'M QUITTING!
WHY, YOU LITTLE—
I'M IN LOVE WITH SOMEBODY ELSE! OH! STOP! YOU'RE HURTING ME!
I'LL HURT YOU PLENTY BEFORE I'M THROUGH! YOU DON'T THINK I'D LET YOU BACK OUT NOW, DO YOU? YOU KNOW TOO MUCH!
LET ME GO!

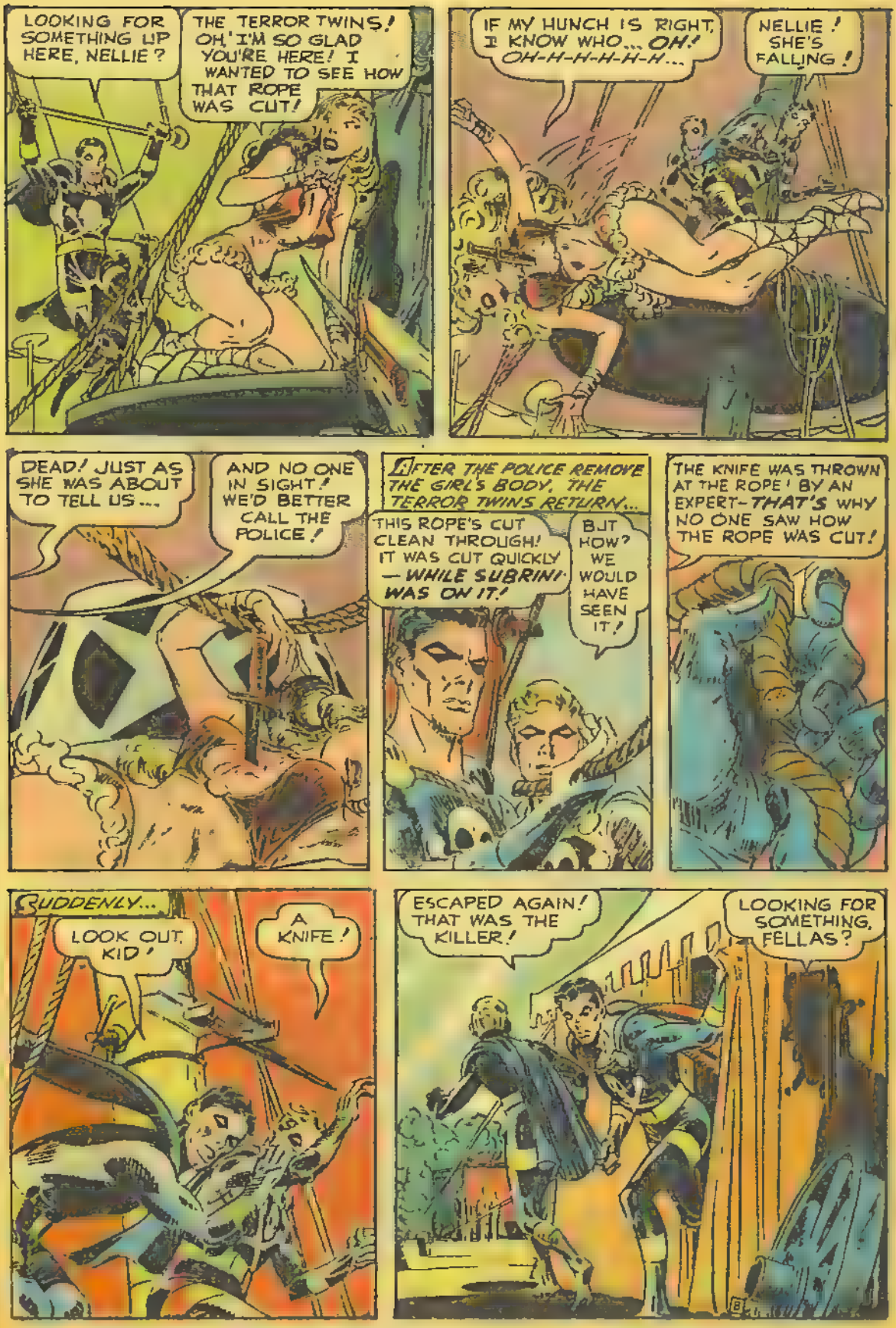
SOB!
IF YOU TRY TO SKIP WITH YOUR SWEETHEART, I'LL FIX YOU BOTH!
AH, NELLIE! DA GOIL ACROBAT! ME HEART'S ON FIRE WIT DAT DAME! WHAT'S SHE CRYIN' ABOUT?
YOUR EYES ARE TOO BIG, CLOWN! BE CAREFUL WHERE YOU LOOK!
LEMME GO!
THIS IS THE LAST TIME I WARN YOU NOT TO BULLY MY FRIEND PIPPO!
ATTABOY, SUBRINI! GIVE IT TO DA BUM!
I'LL GET YOU YET, JOE SUBRINI!
TANKS, JOE!
ANYTIME, PIPPO!
YOU AN' ME IS BUDDIES FOREVER, RIGHT?
RIGHT, PIPPO! NOTHING'LL EVER SEPARATE US!

LATER THAT DAY... JUST BEFORE THE BIG SHOW... BOB AND HIS WARD, TIM, ALIAS THE TERROR TWINS, ARE ON THEIR WAY TO THE CIRCUS GROUNDS...
THE CIRCUS! GOLLY, I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE THE PERFORMANCE!
FIRST, WE'LL DROP IN AND SEE OUR OLD FRIENDS, PIPPO AND JOE SUBRINI.
THAT'S ONE OF THE CLOSEST FRIENDSHIPS I'VE SEEN.
EXCEPT WHEN PIPPO'S GOT HIS EYE ON SOME GIRL. AH, WELL— THEY ALWAYS MAKE UP.
MEANWHILE, IN JOE SUBRINI'S TENT...
SO—THAT'S THE WAY IT IS BETWEEN BOJO AND ME. OH, JOE, I MADE A MISTAKE IN JOINING HIS GANG!
I'M GLAD YOU TOLD ME EVERYTHING, NELLIE.
OH, JOE... I'M SO AFRAID OF HIM!
S-H-H-H, HONEY! DON'T CRY! I'LL TAKE CARE OF THAT RAT!
FIRST THING IS TO BEAT HIS PLANS FOR TONIGHT. RIGHT AFTER MY ACT, I'LL GET THE COPS AND GO TO THE BOXOFFICE...
SO THAT'S HOW IT IS! THAT LITTLE DOUBLE-CROSSER!
I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING—FAST! AH, HERE'S PIPPO COMING DOWN THE STREET... HMM...M..M!
HEY, PIPPO, I WANT TO TALK TO YOU!
GET AWAY FROM ME, YOU LUG, OR I'LL SIC MY FRIEND SUBRINI ON YOU.


YOUR FRIEND, SUBRINI— HA, THAT'S A LAUGH! YOUR BEST FRIEND'S STEALING YOUR BEST GIRL RIGHT NOW!
WOTTA YA MEAN?
YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH NELLIE, RIGHT? AND SHE'S IN LOVE WITH YOU...SHE TOLD ME SO, HONEST! WELL, I KNOW THAT BEHIND YOUR BACK, SUBRINI IS DOING YOU DIRT!
OKAY, CLOWN! JUST TAKE A LOOK INSIDE SUBRINI'S TENT AND FIND OUT FOR YOURSELF!
NELLIE LOVES ME!
JOE! NELLIE!
PIPPO, WHAT'S THE MATTER?
PIPPO! JOE! TIM, LET'S BREAK THIS UP!
YA LOWDOWN DOUBLE-CROSSER! WHAT KIND OF A PAL ARE YA?
PIPPO— WHAT'S COME OVER YOU?
I'LL MOIDER DA BUM!
HA! HA! IT'S WORKING! NOW FOR ACT TWO!

LATER... THE PERFORMANCE! LITTLE DOES THE EAGER CROWD KNOW OF THE DRAMA BEHIND THE SCENES...
...OR WHAT'S IN NELLIE'S MIND AS SHE FLIES EFFORTLESSLY THROUGH THE AIR...
I HOPE JOE IS CAREFUL! I'M AFRAID OF BOJO.
OR IN THE BROKEN HEART OF PIPPO!
LAUGHIN'! CLOWNIN'! WIT' ME HEART BUSTIN', I'M CLOWNIN'!
AND AT LAST...
AND NOW— INTRODUCING... THAT HIGH-STEPPING MASTER OF THE GIANT ONE-ARM SWING... DOING NINETY TURNS — WITHOUT A NET! THE GREAT SUBRINI!
74! 75! 76! 77!—
ISN'T HE WONDERFUL?
I DON'T SEE WHERE HE GETS THE STRENGTH!
SUDDENLY...
SWAK!
THE ROPE BROKE! COME ON, TIM!


PIPPO DID IT! HE CUT THE ROPE! I HEARD HIM SAY HE'D MURDER HIM!
I DON'T BELIEVE THAT - NOT PIPPO!
NELLIE! SHE'S FAINTED!
AND THEN...
QUICK! EVERYBODY - AFTER THEM!
HELP! THEY'RE ROBBING THE BOXOFFICE!
THIS WAY! I SAW WHERE THEY WENT!
HE WAS WITH US! HOW COULD HE SEE WHERE THE ROBBERS WENT?
TICKETS
DISAPPEARED! I GUESS WE'VE LOST THEM, FOLKS!
PHOOEY! I THINK HE LED US ASTRAY ON PURPOSE!
RIGHT YOU ARE! COME, TIM!
SECONDS LATER... OUT OF A DESERTED TENT STEP TWO BLACK-GARBED FIGURES... THE TERROR TWINS!
I FEEL BETTER DRESSED FOR ACTION!
FIRST STEP IS TO EYAMINE THE ROPE THAT BROKE ...AND FIND OUT HOW AND WHY!
YOU KNOW, BOJO WAS AWFULLY QUICK PUTTING THE FINGER ON PIPPO FOR SUBRINI'S FALL.
A LITTLE TOO QUICK, TIM— HEY! SOMEBODY'S ON THE CENTER POLE!
ALLEY OOP! WE'LL JUST TROT RIGHT UP AND SAY HELLO.

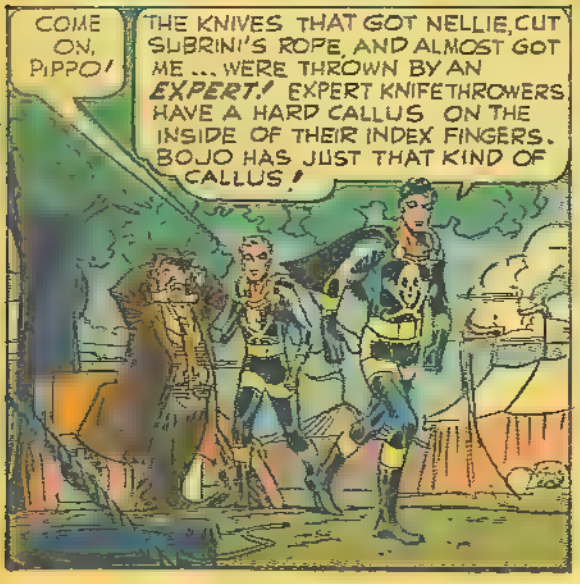

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING UP HERE, NELLIE?
THE TERROR TWINS! OH, I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE! I WANTED TO SEE HOW THAT ROPE WAS CUT!
IF MY HUNCH IS RIGHT, I KNOW WHO... OH! OH-H-H-H-H-H-H...
NELLIE! SHE'S FALLING!
DEAD! JUST AS SHE WAS ABOUT TO TELL US...
AND NO ONE IN SIGHT! WE'D BETTER CALL THE POLICE!
AFTER THE POLICE REMOVE THE GIRL'S BODY, THE TERROR TWINS RETURN...
THIS ROPE'S CUT CLEAN THROUGH! IT WAS CUT QUICKLY — WHILE SUBRINI WAS ON IT!
BUT HOW? WE WOULD HAVE SEEN IT!
THE KNIFE WAS THROWN AT THE ROPE! BY AN EXPERT—THAT'S WHY NO ONE SAW HOW THE ROPE WAS CUT!
SUDDENLY...
LOOK OUT, KID!
A KNIFE!
ESCAPED AGAIN! THAT WAS THE KILLER!
LOOKING FOR SOMETHING, FELLAS?

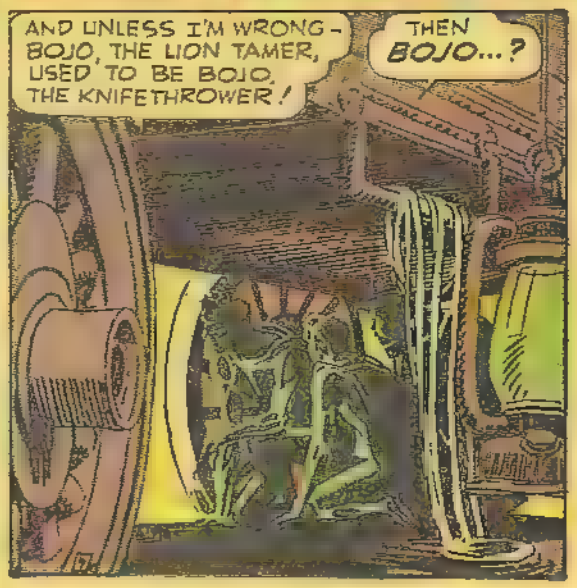
YES, BOJO— WE'RE LOOKING FOR A MAN WHO THREW A KNIFE.
I DON'T LIKE THIS GUY AT ALL—BUT WE CAN'T PROVE ANYTHING AGAINST HIM YET.

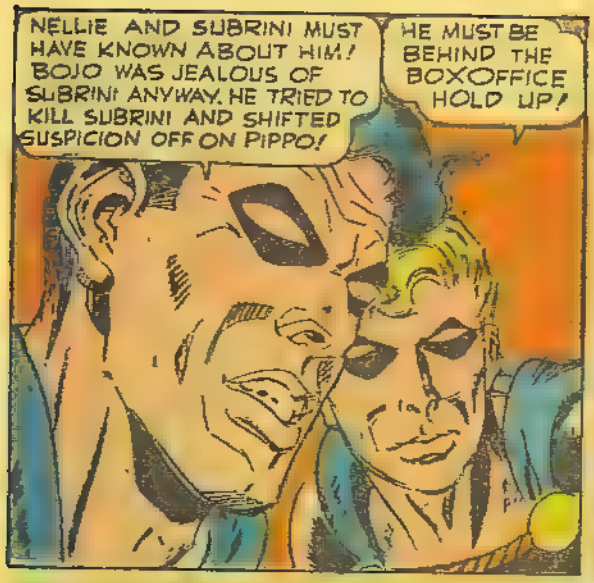
YOU WON'T FIND ANY KNIVES ON ME! I TRAIN LIONS! SO LONG, SNOOPER!
THAT HAND ... HMM .. NOW I KNOW WHERE I'VE SEEN HIM BEFORE!
TERROR! SOME-TH.NG'S MOVING BEHIND THAT BOX!

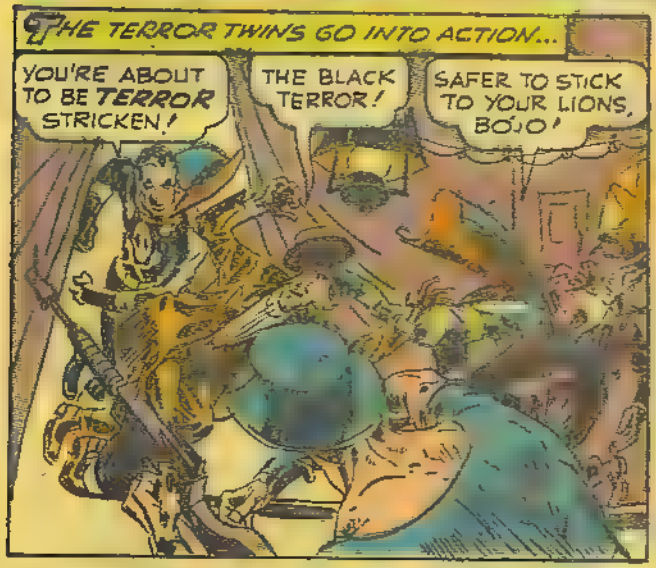
I GOT HIM!

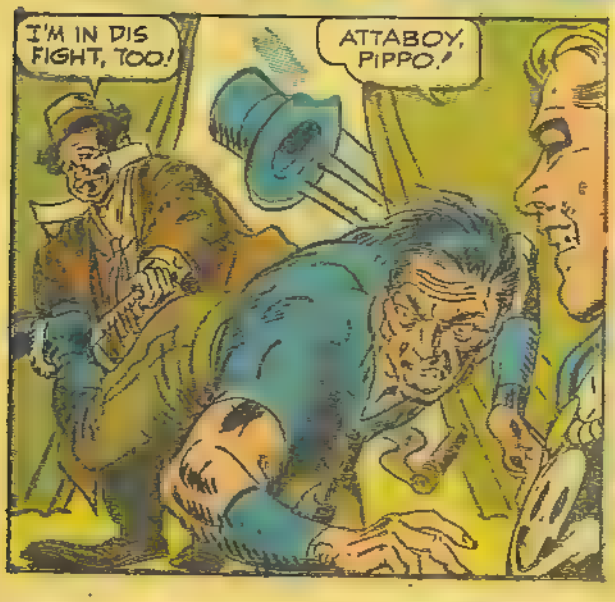
I DIDN'T DO NOTHIN', FELLAS—HONEST! I WAS ONLY HIDING FROM THE COPS—IN CASE THEY FALL FOR BOJO'S PHONEY LINE!
WE BELIEVE YOU, PIPPO! AND WE'RE GOING TO HELP YOU!

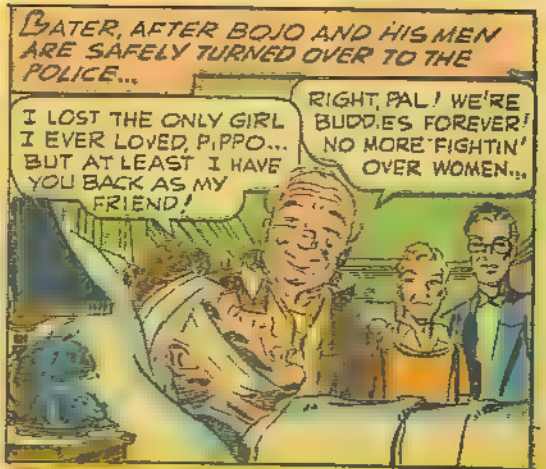

COME ON, PIPPO!
THE KNIVES THAT GOT NELLIE, CUT SUBRINI'S ROPE, AND ALMOST GOT ME ... WERE THROWN BY AN EXPERT! EXPERT KNIFETHROWERS HAVE A HARD CALLUS ON THE INSIDE OF THEIR INDEX FINGERS. BOJO HAS JUST THAT KIND OF CALLUS!


AND UNLESS I'M WRONG— BOJO, THE LION TAMER, USED TO BE BOJO, THE KNIFETHROWER!
THEN BOJO...?


NELLIE AND SUBRINI MUST HAVE KNOWN ABOUT HIM! BOJO WAS JEALOUS OF SUBRINI ANYWAY. HE TRIED TO KILL SUBRINI AND SHIFTED SUSPICION OFF ON PIPPO!
HE MUST BE BEHIND THE BOXOFFICE HOLD UP!

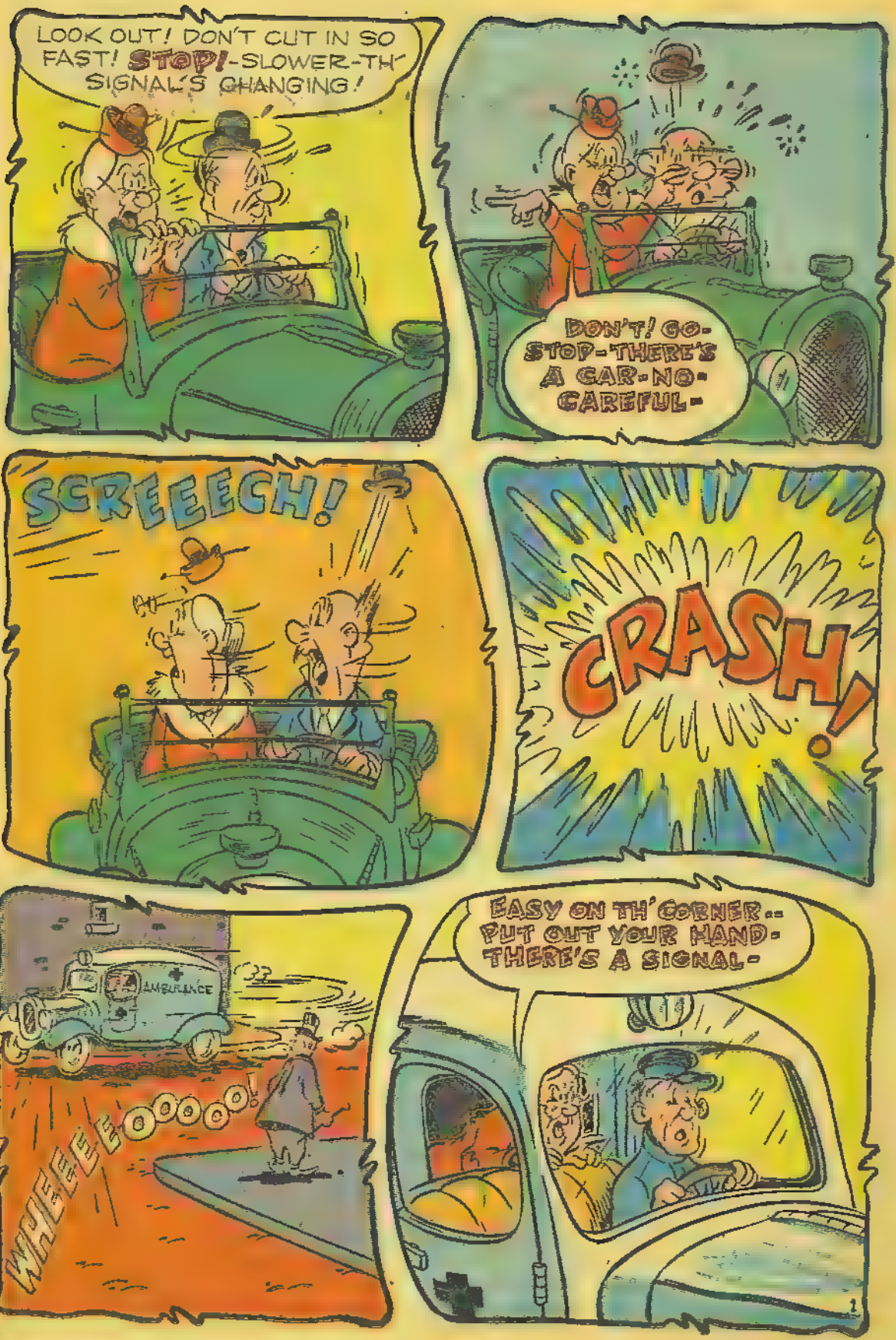





LATER, AFTER BOJO AND HIS MEN ARE SAFELY TURNED OVER TO THE POLICE...
I LOST THE ONLY GIRL I EVER LOVED, PIPPO... BUT AT LEAST I HAVE YOU BACK AS MY FRIEND!
RIGHT, PAL! WE'RE BUDDIES FOREVER! NO MORE FIGHTIN' OVER WOMEN...

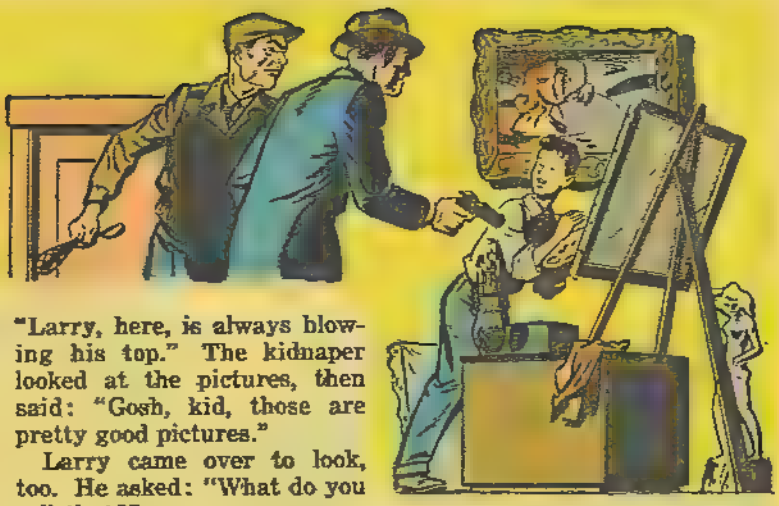
You will find the thrilling adventures of the BLACK TERROR in every issue of EXCITING Comics!

THE JONESES
COME, GRANDMA! I'M READY TO TAKE YOU DOWN TOWN NOW!
JUST A MINUTE, SON, I'LL BE RIGHT DOWN!
J.B.
REMEMBER NOW, SON, DRIVE CAREFULLY!
OKAY, GRANDMA, OKAY! COME ON!
WATCH OUT FOR THAT CAR-- PUT OUT YOUR HAND-- THERE'S A STOP STREET!


LOOK OUT! DON'T CUT IN SO FAST! STOP!-SLOWER-TH' SIGNAL'S CHANGING!
DON'T! GO-STOP-THERE'S A CAR-NO-CAREFUL-
SCREEECH!
CRASH!
AMBULANCE
WHEEEEOOOOO!
EASY ON TH' CORNER-- PUT OUT YOUR HAND-THERE'S A SIGNAL-

Pretty Pictures

By Oliver Buchanon



WALTER GRAHAM was making a success of his chosen work. His father was a famous artist whose pictures were in demand for many illustrative purposes. Mr. Graham had earned a great deal of money from his drawing. Walter was working late one night in the Graham studio on a series of pictures when someone came along the hall and opened the door into the room.

"Who is it?" Walter asked. As he looked up, two men pushed into the room and one of them said:

"We're friends of your father's. He had an accident. We're going to take you to meet him. He needs attention."

Walter was a clever youth. Something about the speaker convinced him that there was plenty phony in his make-up. So the boy said:

"Where is my father?"

The first speaker turned to his companion, and Walter immediately saw that the second man was holding a gun. The boy stood up in front of the easel on which he was working, but kept right on drawing

"Now you've spilled the beans, Jake," said the spokesman. "I told you to keep the gun out of sight. Now we'll have to take the kid out to Hawk Mountain and hide him in that old tumbled-down house."

Walter's crayons were working swiftly and the man called Jake approached him with the gun in his hand. "Come on, kid," he insisted. "Larry, here, is always blowing his top." The kidnaper looked at the pictures, then said: "Gosh, kid, those are pretty good pictures."

Larry came over to look, too. He asked: "What do you call that?"

"That's a rebus," Walter replied.

Both of the kidnapers shook their heads, then Larry said: "One of them artistic things, hey. Well, we have no time for that now."

The two men led Walter out of the studio, and through the darkness toward their car. He made no resistance, and they drove some distance away. Then Larry, who was driving, stopped at a mail box and dropped a note into the mail.

"That ought to get the old man started with the ransom," Jake declared. "But it's too bad we have to wait until morning."

The drive out to the old abandoned house took about an hour. The last quarter of a mile was made on foot after Jake hid the car in heavy brush. The two kidnapers made themselves comfortable in the kitchen of the house after making sure that the shades were down and shutters were closed.

Walter was put to bed on a rather ragged-looking mattress. He did not fall asleep, however, but listened for sounds of a rescue. About two o'clock in the morning while the two kidnapers were playing a rather monotonous game of double solitaire, he thought he heard a boot scraping on a rock outside.

The boy looked up carefully. Jake and Larry did not seem to have heard the sound. Suddenly, however, there was a creaking noise in the front room of the house. This time Jake jumped up and pulled his gun.

"Someone's in the living room," roared Jake. He started through the dark hall toward the front of the building. Walter rolled off the mattress and almost into the running feet of the kidnaper. Jake sprawled over him. Larry hurried up to help. Then the back door of the building banged open and a harsh voice called:

"Stand where you are!"

Jake and Larry whirled around. Walter's father and two State Policemen were standing in the doorway. The father hurried over to release the tied hands and feet of his son.

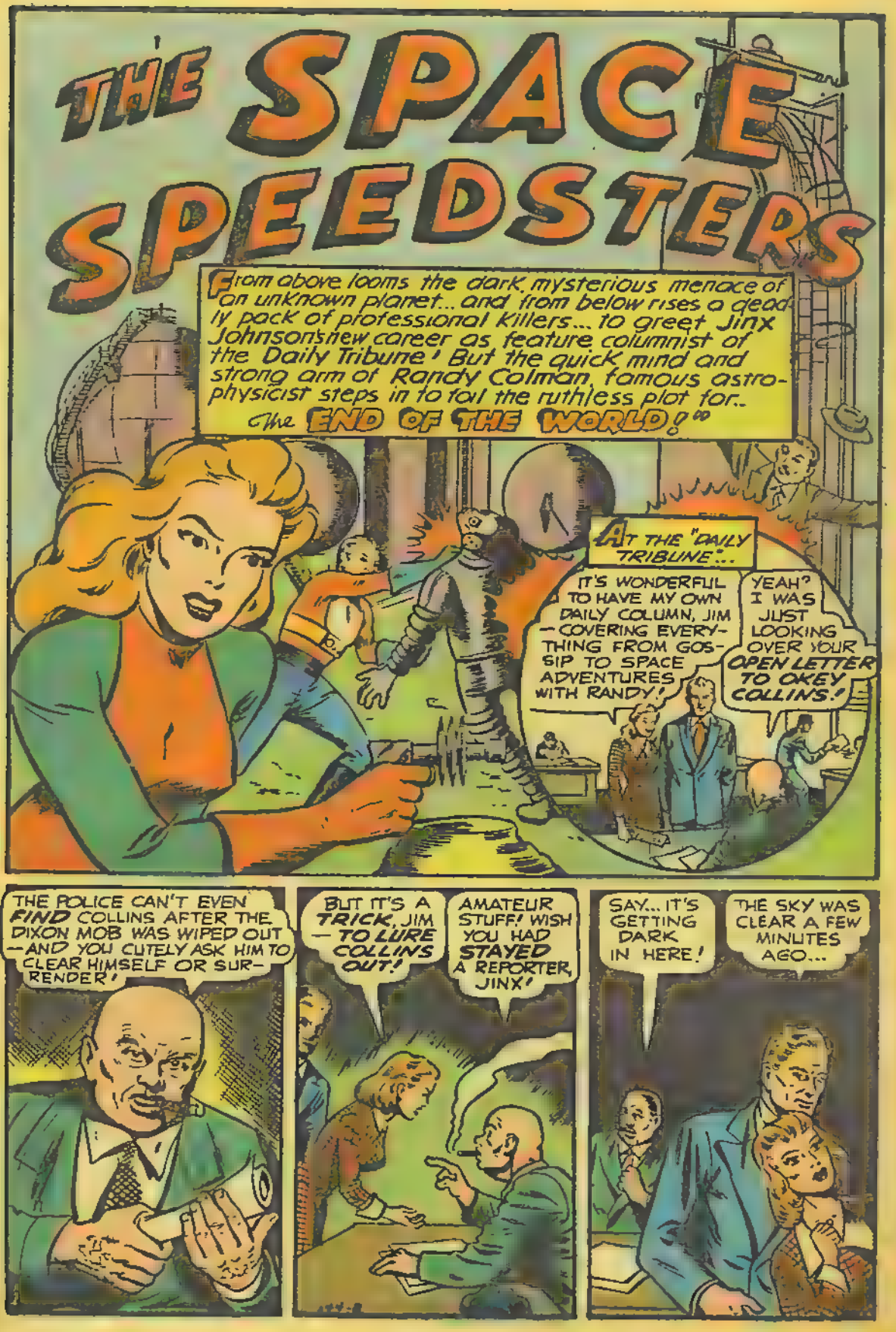
"Quick thinking, son," Mr. Graham said: "That rebus sure brought us here in a hurry."

"Rebus?" Jake repeated. "You mean them pictures?"

"Sure," replied Walter Graham. "Rebus puzzles tell a a story in pictures. I made a quick rebus that told my father just where you were taking me!"

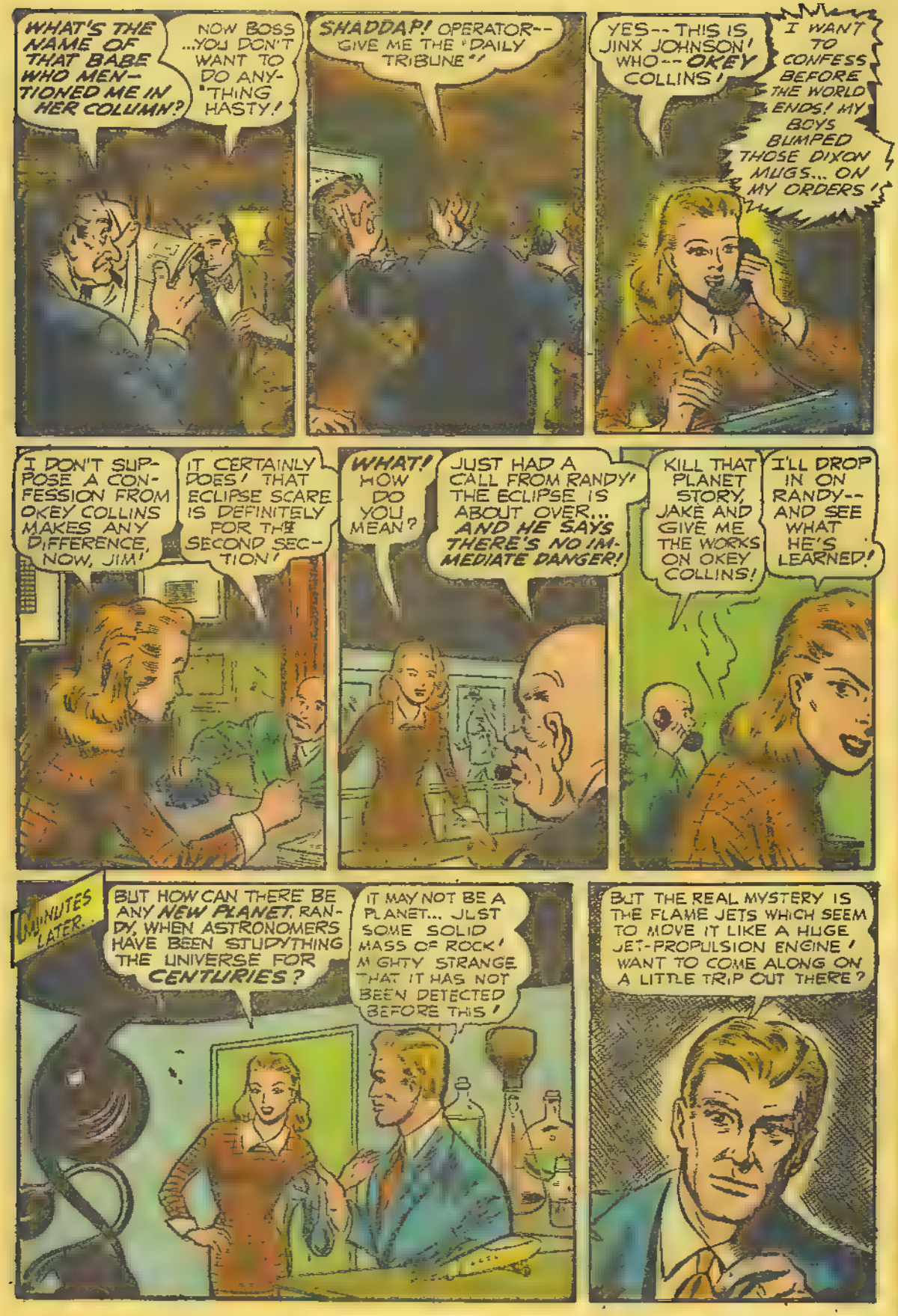
The State Police congratulated the boy on his cleverness

Walter Graham's Kidnapers Are Certainly Puzzled!

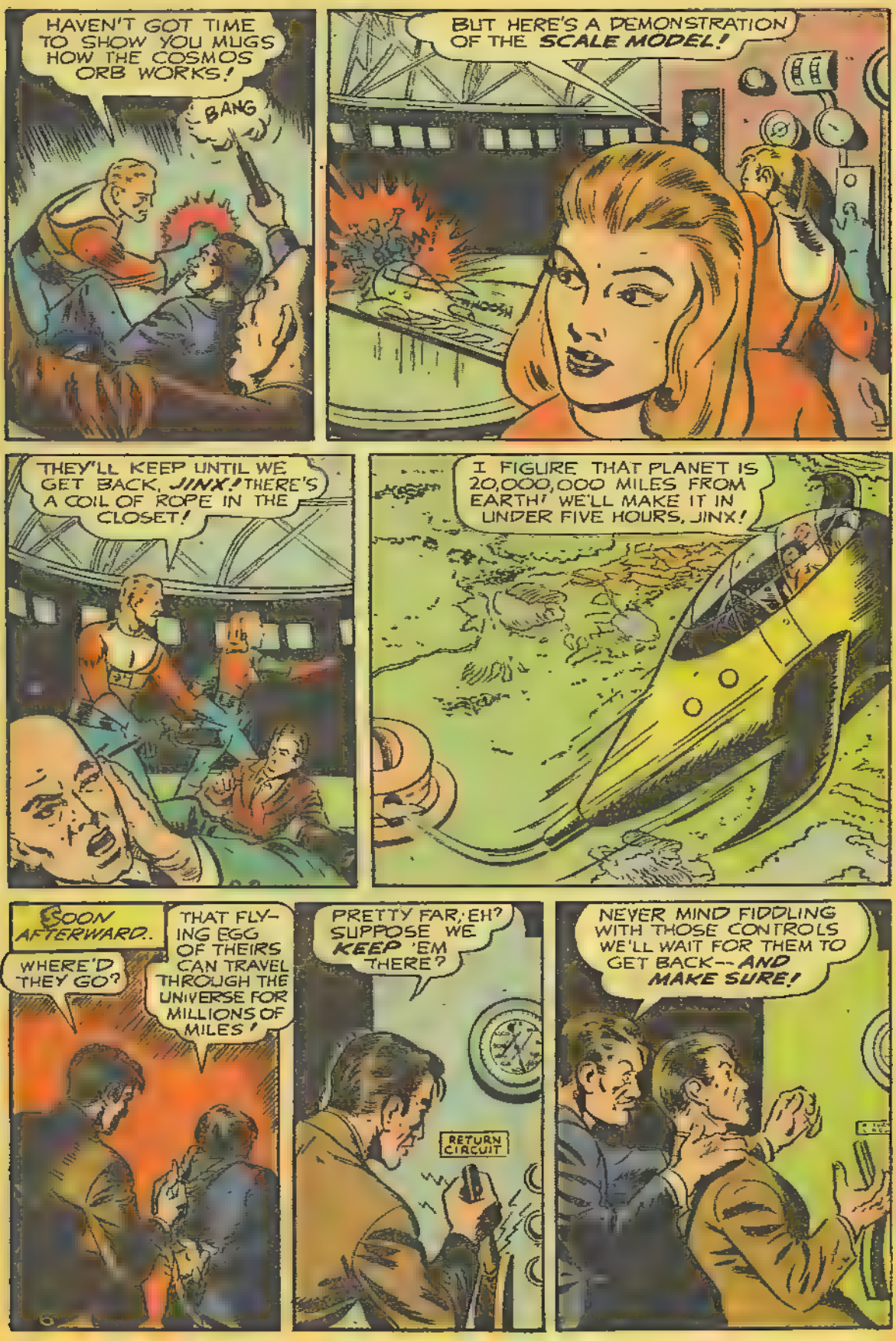

THE SPACE SPEEDSTERS
From above looms the dark, mysterious menace of an unknown planet... and from below rises a deadly pack of professional killers... to greet Jinx Johnson's new career as feature columnist of the Daily Tribune! But the quick mind and strong arm of Randy Colman, famous astrophysicist steps in to foil the ruthless plot for.. the END OF THE WORLD!"
AT THE "DAILY TRIBUNE"...
IT'S WONDERFUL TO HAVE MY OWN DAILY COLUMN, JIM — COVERING EVERYTHING FROM GOSSIP TO SPACE ADVENTURES WITH RANDY!
YEAH? I WAS JUST LOOKING OVER YOUR OPEN LETTER TO OKEY COLLINS!
THE POLICE CAN'T EVEN FIND COLLINS AFTER THE DIXON MOB WAS WIPED OUT — AND YOU CUTELY ASK HIM TO CLEAR HIMSELF OR SURRENDER!
BUT IT'S A TRICK, JIM — TO LURE COLLINS OUT!
AMATEUR STUFF! WISH YOU HAD STAYED A REPORTER, JINX!
SAY... IT'S GETTING DARK IN HERE!
THE SKY WAS CLEAR A FEW MINUTES AGO...

GREAT HORN SPOON! BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
WHAT'S UP, RANDY?
WHY, RANDY! IT'S ONLY AN ECLIPSE OF THE SUN
SURE--BUT THE NEXT SOLAR ECLIPSE IN THESE PARTS ISN'T DUE FOR SIXTEEN YEARS!
YOU MEAN IT'S A FREAK ECLIPSE?
YOU CAN CALL IT THAT, JIM! I'LL HAVE TO GET TO MY LAB AND CHECK ON THIS!
BYE, NOW, RANDY! THIS HAS A PERFECT HUMAN INTEREST SLANT FOR MY COLUMN!
PRESS ROOM! HERE IS YOUR LEAD FOR A REMAKE..."HAS ATOMIC ENERGY FINALLY DISRUPTED THE UNIVERSE?"
AN HOUR LATER.
THE ECLIPSE HAS ALMOST REACHED TOTALITY--BUT THE PLANET DOESN'T REGISTER IN THE SPECTROSCOPE AS ANYTHING BUT A BLACK MASS!
IT CAN'T BE ANY KNOWN PLANET! WONDER WHAT THE TELESCOPE WILL SHOW?

GREAT GUNS! IT HAS TWO SPOUTS OF FLAME AT THE POLES--- EACH SHOOTING HUNDREDS OF MILES INTO SPACE!
THE PLANET CAN'T HAVE A SET ORBIT--OR IT WOULD HAVE BEEN SEEN IN ANY ECLIPSE BEFORE! THIS MAGNO POLARIZED GLASS MAY BRING OUT ITS RADIATIONS!
UNDOUBTEDLY THE FIRST STAGE OF UNIVERSAL DESTRUCTION!
I CAN PROVE A FOREIGN POWER IS PLOTTING TO WIPE OUT THE WORLD!
MILLIONS OF PEOPLE ARE WAITING HELPLESSLY AT THIS MOMENT!
--WAITING FOR WHAT MAY WELL BE THE TWILIGHT OF THE HUMAN RACE!
YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT, OKEY! GET HOLD OF YOURSELF!
YOU'VE NEVER SEEN OKEY COLLINS AFRAID BEFORE-- BUT THIS IS A BAD THING TO HAVE ON YOUR CONSCIENCE!


WHAT'S THE NAME OF THAT BABE WHO MENTIONED ME IN HER COLUMN?
NOW BOSS ...YOU DON'T WANT TO DO ANYTHING HASTY!
SHADDAP! OPERATOR-- GIVE ME THE "DAILY TRIBUNE"
YES--THIS IS JINX JOHNSON! WHO--OKEY COLLINS!
I WANT TO CONFESS BEFORE THE WORLD ENDS! MY BOYS BUMPED THOSE DIXON MUGS... ON MY ORDERS!
I DON'T SUPPOSE A CONFESSION FROM OKEY COLLINS MAKES ANY DIFFERENCE, NOW, JIM!
IT CERTAINLY DOES! THAT ECLIPSE SCARE IS DEFINITELY FOR THE SECOND SECTION!
WHAT! HOW DO YOU MEAN?
JUST HAD A CALL FROM RANDY! THE ECLIPSE IS ABOUT OVER... AND HE SAYS THERE'S NO IMMEDIATE DANGER!
KILL THAT PLANET STORY, JAKE AND GIVE ME THE WORKS ON OKEY COLLINS!
I'LL DROP IN ON RANDY--AND SEE WHAT HE'S LEARNED!
MINUTES LATER..
BUT HOW CAN THERE BE ANY NEW PLANET, RANDY, WHEN ASTRONOMERS HAVE BEEN STUDYTHING THE UNIVERSE FOR CENTURIES?
IT MAY NOT BE A PLANET... JUST SOME SOLID MASS OF ROCK! MIGHTY STRANGE THAT IT HAS NOT BEEN DETECTED BEFORE THIS!
BUT THE REAL MYSTERY IS THE FLAME JETS WHICH SEEM TO MOVE IT LIKE A HUGE JET-PROPULSION ENGINE! WANT TO COME ALONG ON A LITTLE TRIP OUT THERE?

WHILE MUCH REMAINS TO BE EXPLAINED... IT CAN BE DEFINITELY STATED THAT THE WORLD WILL NOT COME TO AN END!
THUNDERATION! WHY DID I HAVE TO SHOOT OFF MY MOUTH?
KIND OF PULLED US IN TOO --DIDN'T YOU, OKEY?
SO WHAT? WE'LL GET THE G.RL HERE FOR MORE DETAILS -- AND SHUT HER UP BEFORE THE STORY GETS OUT!
JINX JOHNSON? SHE LEFT A WHILE AGO FOR RANDY COLMAN'S LABORATORY!
SOON AFTERWARD..
DON'T YOU THINK THOSE JETS OF FIRE YOU SAW WILL BE DANGER-OUS, RANDY?
POSS.BLY... BUT WE'LL HAVE TO TAKE THAT CHANCE!
SUDDENLY..
YER GOIN' ON A TRIP ALL RIGHT.... A ONE WAY TRIP, BUD!
COLLINS! LOOK OUT, JINX!
RAT-A TAT TAT TA-T BANG BANG
DON'T YOU FIND MUR-DER A BIT MONOTO-NOUS, RAT?
BANG!

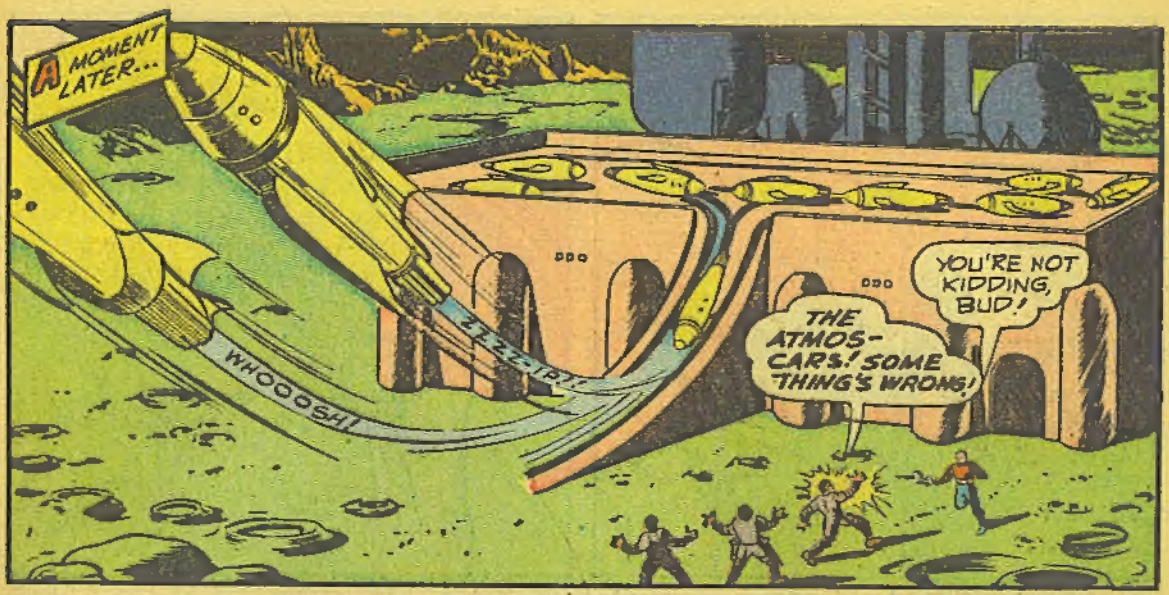

HAVEN'T GOT TIME TO SHOW YOU MUGS HOW THE COSMOS ORB WORKS!
BANG
BUT HERE'S A DEMONSTRATION OF THE SCALE MODEL!
WHOOSH
THEY'LL KEEP UNTIL WE GET BACK, JINX! THERE'S A COIL OF ROPE IN THE CLOSET!
I FIGURE THAT PLANET IS 20,000,000 MILES FROM EARTH! WE'LL MAKE IT IN UNDER FIVE HOURS, JINX!
SOON AFTERWARD.
WHERE'D THEY GO?
THAT FLYING EGG OF THEIRS CAN TRAVEL THROUGH THE UNIVERSE FOR MILLIONS OF MILES!
PRETTY FAR, EH? SUPPOSE WE KEEP 'EM THERE?
RETURN CIRCUIT
NEVER MIND FIDDLING WITH THOSE CONTROLS WE'LL WAIT FOR THEM TO GET BACK--AND MAKE SURE!

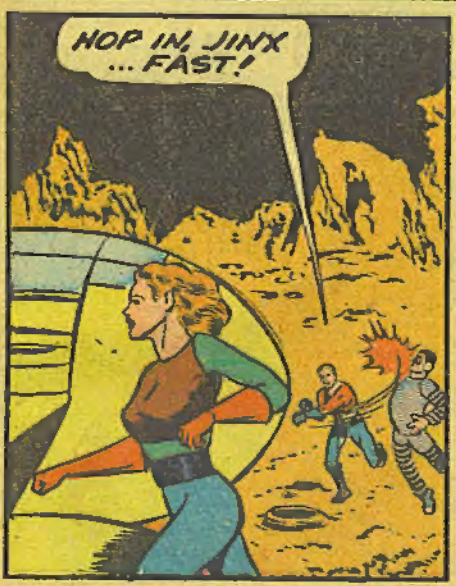
HOURS LATER..
THAT IS NOT ONE OF OUR ATMOSCARS! ALERT THE GUARDS!
WHATEVER ELSE WE FIND, JINX THIS PLACE SHOULD BE FULL OF SURPRISES!
POPULATED! AND A HIGH DEGREE OF MECHANICAL DEVELOPMENT, TOO!
BUT NOT VERY SOCIABLE ... LOOK!
DUCK, JINX ... THEY'RE SHOOTING PRESSURE SHOCKS!
THOSE WHO TRESPASS ON HECATE FIND ONLY DEATH!
POW
WHAM
PRINCESS VENIA WILL WELCOME EARTH PRISONERS! TAKE THEM ALIVE!!
CRAK!

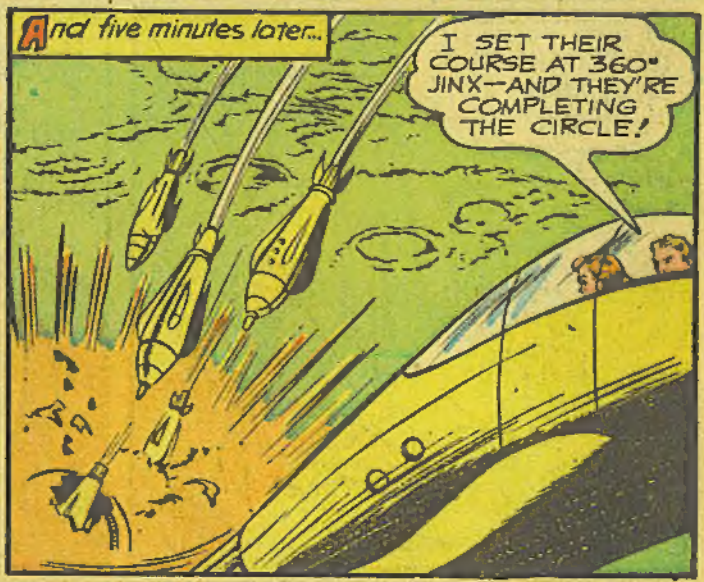
YOU ARE MY FIRST CAPTIVES -- BUT THERE WILL BE MILLIONS MORE WHEN HECATE COMES CLOSE ENOUGH TO THE EARTH FOR INVASION!
SNEAKING UP ON US, EH? I'LL BET THAT EXPLAINS THOSE FLAMING GEYSERS!
YOU ARE VERY OBSERVANT! I WILL SHOW YOU HOW IT WORKS!
THE FLAMING JETS OF GAS FROM HECATE'S DEPTHS PUSH US THROUGH SPACE AT ANY SPEED WE DESIRE!
AIDED, I SUPPOSE, BY A LESSENING OF CENTRIFUGAL FORCE -- AS THE PLANET LOSES VOLUME!
OUR CENTRALLY CONTROLLED ATMOSCARS DO NOT HAVE TOO GREAT A RANGE... BUT WE'LL SOON BE READY TO INVADE THE EARTH.
SUDDENLY..
I SUPPOSE YOUR MODEL TURNS... LIKE THIS!
UGH!
YAAAAAGH!
GRAB A SHOCK PISTOL, JINX!
WHAM!
CRAK!

THINK WE CAN MAKE IT BACK TO THE COSMO ORB, RANDY?
I'LL TAKE YOU THERE-- BUT I HAVE A LITTLE JOB TO DO!!
WHAM
GREAT GUNS!... THE "READY" LIGHT DOESN'T FLASH ON! SOMETHING'S HAPPENED TO THE CATHODE BEAM!
VERY NICE-- WITH A WHOLE PACK AFTER US!
JIM BURROUGHS! JIM! CAN YOU HEAR ME?
HEAVENS! I HOPE HE DIDN'T LEAVE HIS UNIVERADIO AT HOME!
ACROSS TWENTY MILLION MILES OF SPACE...
JIM BURROUGHS! COLLINS IS AT MY LABORATORY... AND WE'RE TRAPPED HERE!
THAT'S RANDY! HAVE SOME OF THE PRESS ROOM BOYS GET A TRUCK STARTED, TED!
LET'S MAKE IT SHORT, JIM-- THIS IS MY LUNCH HOUR!
THE DAILY TRIBUNE..
DAILY TRIBUNE
WAIT TILL YOU SEE THE STORY YOU GET OUT OF THIS, OKEY!
BANG!

OPEN SWITCH! NO WONDER THEY'RE IN A JAM!
CRAK
SOCK
RETURN CIRCUIT
SECONDS LATER...
TRY TO HOLD 'EM, JINX -- I'M GOING PLACES!
OK RANDY, EVERYTHING'S JAKE DOWN HERE!
WHAM
HOW ABOUT A CONDUCTED TOUR TO THE CENTRAL ATMOSCAR STATION, MUG?
YAAAAGH!
POW
WHAM
WELL?
STOP! I'LL ...TAKE ...YOU ...THERE!
I JUST DON'T SEE THE SENSE OF LEAVING YOU FOLKS A CHANCE TO ATTACK EARTH!
LUCKY THESE CONTROLS AREN'T TOO COMPLICATED! I'LL GIVE MYSELF FIVE MINUTES TO GET BACK TO THE COSMO ORB!
10







I'VE GOT WRITER'S CRAMP FROM CHANGING HEADLINES! WORLD DOOMED! WORLD SAFE! COLLINS CONFESSES! COLLINS CAPTURED!
CHEER UP, JIM! JUST THINK OF THE DOUBLE SCOOP THE TRIBUNE SCORED!

Read Startling Comics and Wonder Comics for the greatest adventures in comics!

LITTLE LEGENDS
by JULES STEINER
TWO PRANKSTERS PLAN TO PLAY A JOKE ON A SIMPLE FELLOW SO....
HERE HE COMES NOW!
CC-871
YA MEAN THERE'S A WHOLE POT OF GOLD AT THE END OF THE RAINBOW, AN' IT'S AT THE TOP OF THAT MOUNTAIN? GOSH!
SURE! WE SEEN IT!
IT'S THERE, ALRIGHT!
I'M GOIN' TO GET IT! GEE! GOSH! I'LL BE RICH! RICH! BOY, OH BOY!
HAW HAW HA HA HA HO HA HO HO HA HA HO HE HE HA HA
HA HO HO HA HA HE HE HO
SHH! HERE HE COMES, BACK! HE! HE! HE!
IT WAS SETTIN' THERE, JUST LIKE YOU FELLOWS SAID! THANKS A LOT, FER MAKIN' ME RICH!
"HE WHO LAUGHS LAST, LAUGHS BEST!"